

The Inter-American Foundation



2012

Year in Review

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Cover: Honduran student, page 41 (Courtesy OYE); Nicaraguan coffee farmer with UCPO, page 48 (Patrick Ahern); Haitian photographer with FFFJ, page 38 (Alyssa Nicol); Peruvian dancer at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), page 66 (Tie Xu); detail from weaving by Edmundo Huarancca of former IAF grantee Procaya Peru in Ayacucho (Mark Caicedo).

Opposite page: Pompeyo Berrocal at the NMAI, page 66 (Tie Xu).

THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION



2012 IN REVIEW

October 1, 2011, to September 30, 2012

Managing Editor: Paula Durbin

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*Fundación Saraki, page 52,
works with Paraguayan
disability-rights organizations.*

THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

The Inter-American Foundation (IAF), an independent foreign assistance agency of the United States government, provides grants for grassroots development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Created by Congress in 1969, the IAF responds directly to grassroots groups and the organizations that support them. It invests in citizen-led initiatives proposed by grassroots groups working to make their communities thrive. IAF grantee partners confirm their commitment by contributing in kind or in cash toward the success of their projects and by mobilizing resources to continue their impact. The IAF encourages partnerships with businesses, government and other community organizations directed at improving the quality of life for poor people and strengthening democratic practices. To contribute to a better understanding of the development process, the IAF shares its experiences through its publications and in a variety of fora.

The Inter-American Foundation is governed by a board of directors appointed by the president of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Six members are drawn from the private sector and three from the federal government. A president, appointed by the board, serves as the Inter-American Foundation's chief executive officer, managing a staff of 47 employees based in Washington, D.C.

Congress appropriates funds annually for the Inter-American Foundation. The IAF also has access to the Social Progress Trust Fund administered by the Inter-American Development Bank and consisting of payments on U.S. government loans extended under the Alliance for Progress to various Latin American and Caribbean governments. Since 1972, the IAF has awarded 5,039 grants valued at more than \$697 million. Grantees have committed or mobilized an additional \$969 million. Together, the IAF and its grantees have improved the conditions of hundreds of thousands of poor families in communities throughout the hemisphere.

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* On Sept. 30, 2012.

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Priscila Silva, *Program Staff Assistant*
Alexis Toussaint, *Program Staff Assistant*

*On Sept. 30, 2012.



*Haitian students
from FFFJ, page 38.*



CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Each year that I have introduced the annual report of the Inter-American Foundation, I have found it a vivid reminder of the encouraging efforts going on in this hemisphere, the often daunting context, and the vast diversity of Latin America and the Caribbean. Behind each grant awarded by the IAF are people struggling on the margins who have organized to do better. For many, working toward their ambitious goals requires taking on inequality, unemployment, threats to the environment, exclusion and chronic violence—all tough topics on the global agenda that challenge authorities and agencies with far more resources. Yet somehow the citizens most impacted are figuring out what might spark change where they live.

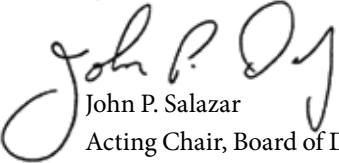
I will mention just two urgent issues that have resulted in some of the dozens of creative solutions described in this report. The first is the need to protect the environment. Common to many plans to raise the standard of living in disadvantaged communities is an awareness of the play between pressures on environmental resources and the potential for a better life. These plans are clear in their intent to ensure that valuable ecosystems and natural assets are not sacrificed to development. They emphasize restoration of woodlands and watersheds, benign tourism, responsible agriculture, even the safe treatment of e-waste. The second issue is the violence that ruins lives and destroys communities. Courageous grantee organizations, some working in extremely dangerous places, are standing up to violence in the home and on the street and also addressing the poverty, exclusion and impunity at the root of the problems in need of resolution.

The IAF approach to supporting these and other projects is cornered on listening to what the marginalized and the excluded have to say and responding directly to them with the modest investment they need to overcome their circumstances. I commend the strength and commitment of the IAF employees who have listened so well. Their focus is not abstract; it is on people. The funding decisions they make require idealism tempered by rigor and hard-nosed pragmatism.

Our board looks toward the future well aware that every item in the federal budget is going to be on the table during foreseeable funding discussions, including foreign aid which accounts for only 1 percent of the total. Just a tiny sliver of that small amount is allocated to the IAF for investment in the kind of self-help that brings about positive change. Grassroots development has long been acknowledged for making the most of limited resources and putting ordinary citizens in charge. Recently, in a statement jointly issued with the IAF, the United States Agency for International Development recognized the complementary function that the Inter-American Foundation serves in our country's aid efforts by developing thriving communities, the "necessary building blocks for resilient democracies." Americans can take pride in this solid approach to foreign assistance that demonstrates a sincere commitment to the people of Latin America and the Caribbean.

This message would not be complete without recognizing, in particular, the 12 productive years that Kay Arnold served with us, including her leadership as chair and vice chair in 2000 and 2001. When her second term expired, she graciously agreed to continue to work with us until the United States Senate confirmed President Obama's nominee as her replacement. We have been working since April with two engaged and engaging new board members, Eddy Arriola and Kelly Ryan—and with Kay Arnold in her new position as vice chair of our robust and committed advisory council.

When President Barack Obama entrusted me to act as chair of the IAF's board of directors four years ago, I accepted the responsibility as an honor and also as an opportunity to partner with hardworking people as they turn great ideas into something lasting. I can confirm that the rest of the board shares this aspiration. We have advanced in this effort by working together in a spirit of bipartisanship and of consensus that balances the perspectives of the public and private sectors. I am grateful to my colleagues on the board for their support during my tenure as chair and for the contribution that each one has made to the IAF and to efficient, responsive public diplomacy.


John P. Salazar
Acting Chair, Board of Directors

The wildlife rescue center operated by Peruvian grantee URKU, page 56.

COURTESY URKU



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The view from my desk has certainly changed since last year. After more than four decades in Arlington, Virginia, the Inter-American Foundation packed up in May and moved its offices into the heart of Washington, D.C., where a short walk connects us with colleagues working in related fields.

This year we also completed a new strategic plan that affirms the IAF's mission of helping communities thrive and charts our course over the next five years. We consulted widely and reflected on the evolving challenges and opportunities facing our grassroots partners. The IAF became the first federal agency to participate in the Center for Effective Philanthropy's grantee perception survey, and 84 percent of our active grantee partners responded. Their frank and anonymous feedback shed light on a range of issues: the impact of IAF funding on their communities and organiza-

tions, the quality of our working relationship, our grant approval process and the *acompañamiento* we provide while they work toward their goals. The full report is posted on our website.

We have also updated our presence online. Our new site, www.iaf.gov, includes news and articles relevant to our work, back issues of *Grassroots Development*, an interactive map of all active grantee partners and ex-post assessments based on visits to former partner organizations five years after their IAF funding ended.

At the close of fiscal 2012, our active portfolio included 267 projects, representing an investment of \$69.7 million in IAF funding and \$105 million in resources contributed by our grantee partners. During 2012, the IAF awarded over \$16 million in grants across 18 countries to support the work of 126 partners that committed counterpart resources valued at \$23 million. Most of these initiatives aim to improve economic well-being through more productive agriculture and stronger community enterprises. Others expand access to clean water and sanitation or take on social problems such as racism or violence. The organizations represent some of the most disadvantaged people of the hemisphere: African descendants, indigenous communities, persons with disabilities, women and young people.

While they may be poor, our partners are not passive, and the essence of the IAF's approach is to encourage community agency. When we are successful, our grantee partners are protagonists—not participants—with aspirations and the ability to think beyond a project and shape their future. Importantly, they do not work alone. They are part of an ever-expanding web of connections that radiates from each project and includes partnerships with businesses, government and nonprofits, sometimes in far-flung diasporas.

The most rewarding part of my job is the opportunity to visit the places we work—to talk with and learn from a few of these amazing protagonists.

- Last year, Kevin Healy, the IAF's longest-serving representative, guided me across Bolivia, introducing me to artists, activists, farmers and entrepreneurs, all dedicated to invigorating their cultural identity and mobilizing community assets. In Santa Rosa, a dusty two-hour drive from Rurrenabaque, we learned how a large municipal park can be managed to protect fragile ecosystems and support inclusive and environmentally sensitive ecotourism. We climbed to 15,000 feet, high above Potosí, to meet with a group of indigenous weavers who had banded together to improve their skills



ALEJANDRA ARGUETA

and market their distinctive designs. And we met in La Paz with community leaders who are working with experts to regulate communal land and register their title.

- In Rio de Janeiro, skilled female construction workers took me on a tour of the iconic Maracanã stadium, where they are part of a major renovation in advance of the 2014 World Cup. Far to the northeast, in the arid *sertão* of Pernambuco, I witnessed a community's efforts to manage scarce water, including by installing catchment systems and dry toilets. Young people in São Paulo told me about their efforts to promote awareness of issues related to the environment and social justice. And in Rio and Recife, I learned about courageous and thoughtful work to expose and address racism.

The IAF's accomplishments and legacy are built on the vision and efforts of a diverse array of individuals dedicated to working at the grassroots. In September, the development community mourned the loss of one of these individuals, Dr. Sheldon Annis, our friend and colleague, who worked at the IAF in the mid-1980s. Sheldon was an influential founder of our journal *Grassroots Development*, and he produced *Direct to the Poor: Grassroots Development in Latin America*, a thoughtful book that became a touchstone for development professionals. His creative energy and incisive questions enriched our work and our lives, and we are grateful to him.

I want to thank the IAF's board and advisory council for their support and guidance through many changes. The heart of any organization is its people, and it is the dedication and humanity of an exceptional staff that make the IAF such a special place to work, where each of us can help build a better world in which communities thrive.



Robert N. Kaplan

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Grants By Country 1972–2012

	Fiscal 2012			
	New Grants	Grant Supplements	IAF Investment*	Counterpart Investment*
Anguilla				
Antigua & Barbuda				
Argentina	3	8	928	1,251
Bahamas				
Barbados			-	-
Belize		1	37	8
Bolivia	1	2	632	426
Brazil	11	4	2,634	4,179
Chile				
Caribbean Region				
Colombia	5	5	1,357	1,617
Costa Rica	1	2	348	867
Dominica			-	-
Dominican Republic	3	1	888	644
Ecuador	3	-	706	929
El Salvador	5	5	1,200	1,004
Grenada			-	-
Guatemala	6	2	1,066	1,198
Guyana			-	-
Haiti	1	5	603	597
Honduras	2	-	229	383
Jamaica			-	-
Latin American Region	1	-	86	41
Mexico	6	6	1,629	5,157
Montserrat			-	-
Netherlands Antilles			-	-
Nicaragua	2	4	1,168	1,546
Panama	2	3	322	
Paraguay	2	4	463	1,258
Peru	4	12	1,704	1,410
St. Kitts & Nevis			-	-
St. Lucia			-	-
St. Vincent			-	-
Suriname			-	-
Trinidad & Tobago			-	-
Turks & Caicos			-	-
Uruguay	-	4	130	76
Venezuela			-	-
			-	-
TOTALS	58	68	16,442	23,195

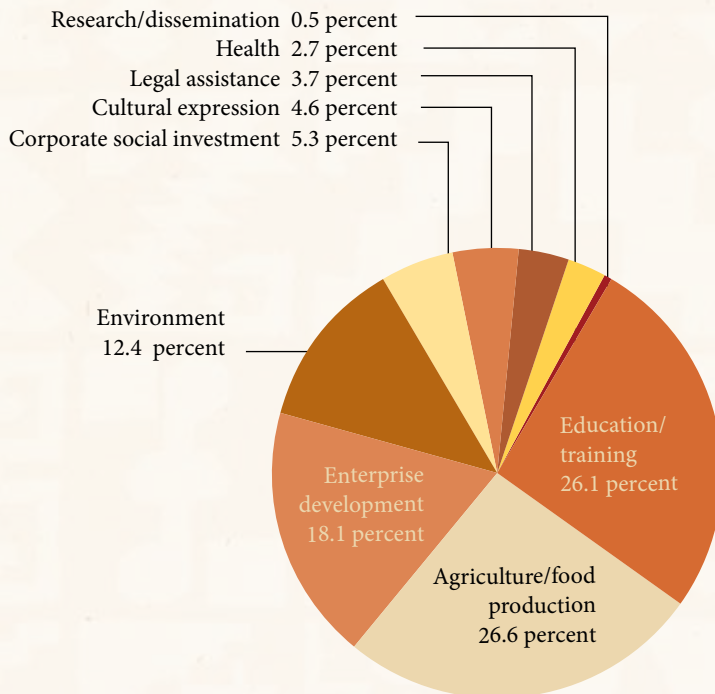
* In thousands of dollars. ** On Sept. 30, 2011.

All Grantees Active in 2012**			Fiscal 1972–2012	
Grantees	IAF Investment*	Counterpart Commitment*	Total Grants	Total IAF Investment*
			1	3
			8	507
15	4,751	12,702	246	34,025
	-	-	7	144
	-	-	11	925
2	644	615	80	4,603
17	5,599	5,777	281	42,163
33	9,053	16,127	415	58,418
4	1,059	2,873	264	43,836
			62	7,308
24	7,073	8,928	332	47,975
9	1,491	2,460	227	16,723
	-	-	75	2,282
7	2,106	2,164	238	26,078
9	1,491	1,740	209	34,188
20	3,966	3,169	231	38,927
	-	-	17	540
14	2,597	3,253	207	32,239
	-	-	7	294
10	3,265	3,084	145	18,077
8	1,959	2,535	169	27,825
2	785	2,013	71	5,050
2	769	386	136	13,055
29	6,260	13,628	382	60,151
	-	-	1	3
	-	-	2	126
15	4,165	7,525	198	36,673
13	2,580	2,602	217	28,744
11	2,602	3,783	155	20,480
20	6,116	7,516	298	55,732
	-	-	6	541
	-	-	12	696
	-	-	12	746
	-	-	3	347
	-	-	14	949
	-	-	2	12
3	1,034	2,049	137	18,814
2	682		159	17,212
267	69,721	104,928	5,039	697,045

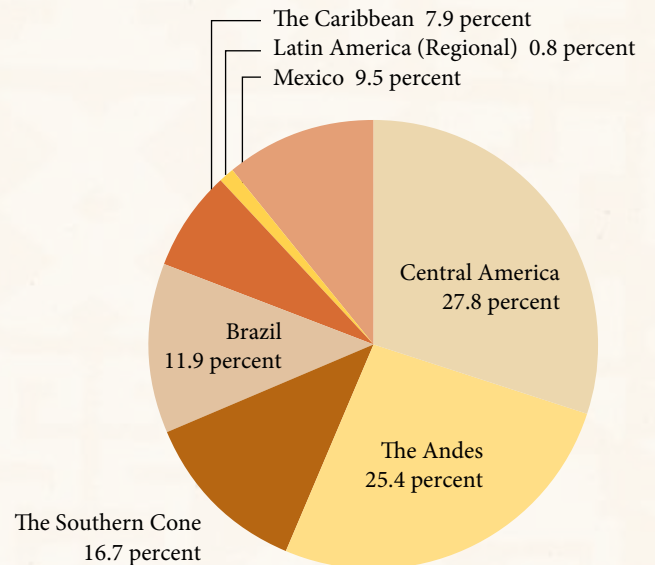
Fiscal 2012: New Grants and Supplements

Program Area	IAF Investment	New Grants and Supplements
Agriculture/food production	\$4,372,572	46
Education/training	\$4,290,992	32
Enterprise development	\$2,983,652	21
Environment	\$2,040,832	10
Corporate social investment	\$864,981	5
Cultural expression	\$751,524	4
Legal assistance	\$612,280	4
Health	\$439,484	3
Research/dissemination	\$85,675	1
Total	\$16,441,992	126

New Grants and Supplements by Program Area

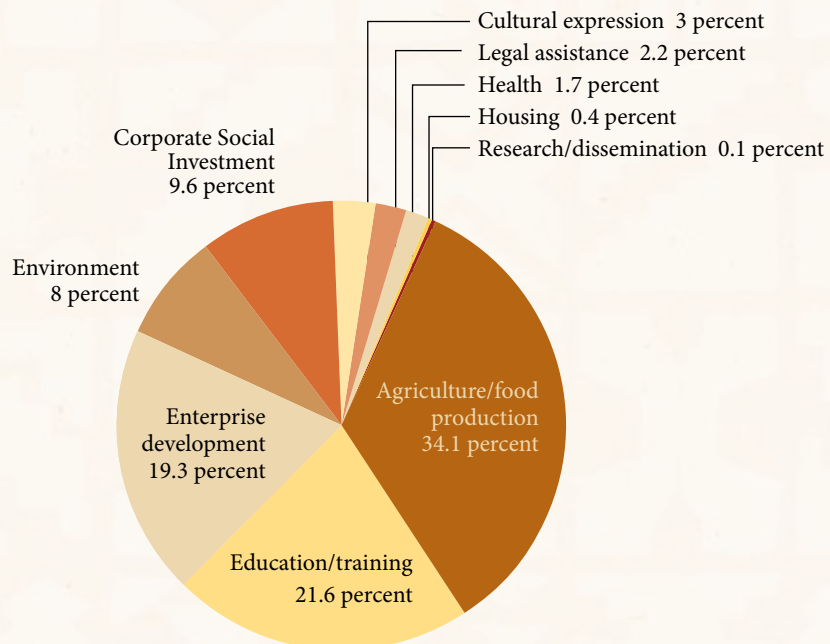


New Grants and Supplements by Region

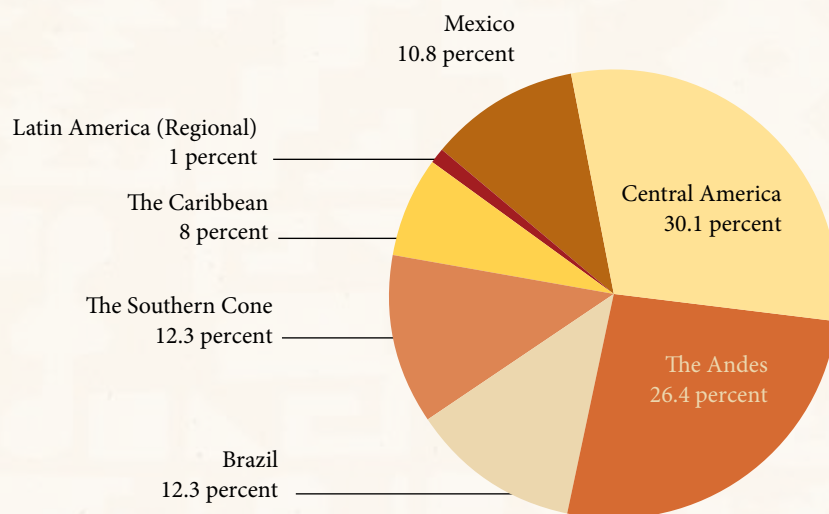


Portfolio of 265 Grantees Active in 2012

Investment by Program Area



Investment by Region



ARGENTINA

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 15

IAF commitment:
\$4,751,432

Counterpart value:
\$12,702,377

Total investment:
\$17,453,809

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (agro-industry, organic and fair-trade certification), civic participation, education, enterprise development, and inclusion of indigenous Argentines, women and young people.

New Grants

Banco de Bosques (BdeB), \$190,050 over two years; counterpart committed, \$324,190.

BdeB will build infrastructure and provide support enabling indigenous Mbya Guaraní in Misiones to earn income from tourism. (AR-364)

Cooperativa de Trabajo Encuentro Ltda. (Cooperativa Encuentro), \$255,400 over three years; counterpart committed, \$486,275.

Cooperativa Encuentro will develop a network to market goods and services to visitors to Rosario and Villa Constitución, will provide training to develop activities for tourists, and open a travel agency. Some 250 Argentines should benefit directly and 1,450 indirectly. (AR-365)

Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la Justicia (ACIJ), \$49,950 over one year; counterpart committed, \$51,270.

In collaboration with 60 residents of 10 irregular settlements in Greater Buenos Aires, ACIJ will collect information on their limited access to the formal economy and identify resources, partners and networks that can help develop the skills required to succeed in it. (AR-366)

Supplemental Grants*

Fundación Pro Vivienda Social (FPVS), \$112,612 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$96,400.

FPVS will expand its training center and form a private-sector network to partner with nongovernmental organizations and residents of Greater Buenos Aires to address community infrastructure, utilities and housing conditions. (AR-341-A6)

Cooperativa de Trabajo COOPSOL Ltda. (COOPSOL), \$12,500; counterpart committed, \$8,700.

COOPSOL will build an additional extraction center that meets the requirements for certification of honey as fair-trade and will

study the feasibility of growing and marketing capers. (AR-347-A3)

Circo Social del Sur (CSS), \$106,125; counterpart committed, \$144,600.

CSS will use circus arts to teach other skills to 430 children, adolescents and young adults in Buenos Aires, organize performances and a new troupe, and will work to become more self-sufficient. (AR-352-A4)

Cooperativa de Provisión de Servicios para Productores, Comercialización y Consumo, Centro de Comercio Solidario Ltda. (CCS), \$79,815 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$63,646.

CCS will expand direct sales of its fair-trade products, including overseas, by developing its network of vendors and broadening its consumer base; increase the members producing honey certified as fair-trade for export and work toward organic certification; and create a foundation to support community development. (AR-354-A6)

Red Puna y Quebrada (Red Puna), \$108,700 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$37,090.

Red Puna will offer training, technical assistance and marketing services to 300 Coya artisans, primarily women, from 16 communities in Jujuy. (AR-356-A2)

Asociación Civil Nuestras Huellas (Nuestras Huellas), \$9,500; counterpart committed, \$38,995.

Nuestras Huellas, which works with community banks in Greater Buenos Aires, will pursue its plan to generate income by offering public and private-sector organizations training and technical assistance that draws upon its expertise in fair trade, the solidarity economy and the development of micro- and small businesses. (AR-362-A1)

*This annual report includes supplemental grants of \$9,500 or more, awarded for one year unless otherwise indicated.

EUGENIO ALFONSO



Tourism in Rosario's Neighborhoods

Situated along the Paraná River, Rosario, the third largest city in Argentina, is a hub for higher education, agro-industry, technology research and development, and the production of big-ticket manufactured goods. It has a thriving port, a major railroad terminal and the country's largest commodities market. Workers from rural areas and neighboring countries are drawn to the opportunities that Rosario offers, but lacking the skills demanded in this job market, many remain in poverty.

Cooperativa de Trabajo Encuentro Ltda. (Cooperativa Encuentro) was founded in 2004 by eight passionately industrious women committed to helping low-income neighborhoods and settlements of squatters in Rosario generate income and hope. It has grown to 24 members who market, under the cooperative's brand registered as Los Soles, the crafts and clothing they produce and additional inventory supplied by another 50 women. The cooperative's guiding principles include fair and transparent pricing and investment in the community—the basis of the concept known as *economía solidaria*. Contributions from donors financed the construction of the Centro Integral y Regional de Economía Solidaria Los Soles, the multipurpose building where Cooperativa Encuentro is housed. Cooperativa Encuentro's tenants include other cooperative enterprises, among them a store, a restaurant supplied by local farmers, an inn and a student hostel, and several nongovernmental organizations.

A relentless search for opportunities has led the cooperative to a new potential clientele: the visitors to this bustling city, already a popular site for conferences and conventions, and nearby Villa Constitución. Cooperativa Encuentro has confirmed that some of these out-of-towners would like to experience the flavor and diversity of Rosario's urban neighborhoods. This led the cooperative to organize a city tour that includes the usual well-known local landmarks but also exposure to the people who practice and the communities who benefit from *economía solidaria*. A second popular tour lets visitors experience home hospitality, a center for women and youths, a recycling enterprise, churches—some of them historic—and other features of daily life in barrios off the beaten path. Cooperativa Encuentro will use its IAF grant to help community residents and organizations manage these circuits, develop others, train as guides, offer additional services and sell their products. Partners already established in the tourism industry will offer tailored training and related assistance. Very important to the success of this venture is the launch of a travel agency that will package tours with accommodations in the Los Soles complex to market in Argentina and abroad. This operation will assure that more revenue stays in Rosario to benefit those who offer travelers a unique glimpse into their routine and culture.—Amanda Hess, IAF program staff assistant



Sites on a community tour: a recycling enterprise and historic church.

BELIZE

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 2

IAF commitment:
\$643,880

Counterpart value:
\$614,880

Total investment:
\$1,258,760

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, nutrition.

Supplemental Grant

Sustainable Harvest International-Belize (SHI-Bz), \$36,500; counterpart committed, \$8,200.

SHI-Bz will purchase a vehicle and motorcycle to transport staff and otherwise support its work with farmers promoting agricultural methods compatible with the responsible use of the environment and facilitating their access to markets. (BE-111-A1)

COURTESY SHI-BZ





BOLIVIA

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 17

IAF commitment:

\$5,598,611

Counterpart value:

\$5,777,367

Total investment:

\$11,375,978

Areas of emphasis:

Agriculture (agroforestry, Andean grains and live-stock), education (adult), land tenure, textiles and other crafts, inclusion of indigenous Bolivians and women.

New Grants

Fundación de los Amigos de la Naturaleza (FAN-Bolivia), \$256,325 over three years; counterpart committed, \$236,047.

FAN-Bolivia will offer training toward expanding ecotourism in Pampas de Yacuma, a municipal protected area near the town of Rurrenabaque in the Beni department, which should improve employment opportunities, income and conservation practices as well as give rise to more enterprises in which community residents participate. The project is expected to directly benefit 200 Bolivians. (BO-525)

Supplemental Grants

Centro de Capacitación y Formación para Mujeres (CCIMCA), \$171,304 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$94,152.

CCIMCA will continue to offer low-income women of Oruro training and other services, including legal advice in cases of domestic and sexual violence, and will work to increase the grassroots organizations that are members of Asociación de Mujeres por la Equidad e Igualdad (AMPUIE), a women's advocacy network. (BO-490-A7)

Fundación Taller de Iniciativas en Estudios Rurales y Reforma Agraria (TIERRA), \$204,800 over two years; counterpart committed, \$95,750.

TIERRA will continue to assist 27 communities in the La Paz and Chuquisaca departments with land titling and developing a plan to manage community land and natural resources. (BO-506-A5)



Ecotourism Takes a Municipal Partner

Tourism is a dynamic force in Latin America's economy and has opened opportunities for civil society organizations to channel tangible benefits to grassroots constituencies. However ecotourism, which ideally allows visitors to enjoy pristine natural settings and the local culture while benefits accrue to residents of the surrounding community, is not without its challenges and pitfalls. Poor management of, for example, transportation can be hazardous to the ecosystem and limiting participation can undermine the launch of locally-owned enterprises. Even for well-known sites, the market can be small and the benefits to the community can be meager.

Fundacion de los Amigos de la Naturaleza (FAN) is a veteran of years of experience in promoting well-managed, socially-responsible ecotourism in the protected areas of Bolivia's Amazonian and Chiquitano regions. More recently, it has helped pioneer the concept of municipal responsibility for protected areas as an alternative to the jurisdiction of the central government. This approach transfers responsibility to a unit of local government that, at least theoretically, is better positioned to galvanize community participation in the management of the ecosystem and the support and presentation of the culture native to the locale. The idea of a protected area under the jurisdiction of a municipality introduces a relationship that is fairly new to Bolivia but consistent with the trend toward decentralizing administrative functions and encouraging popular participation that has been evolving over two decades.

FAN will use its IAF award to work in the largest of these areas protected by municipalities, Santa Rosa de Yacuma, along the Yacuma River on the flood plain known as Llanos de Moxos in the Amazon basin. The site already attracts some 18,000 tourists annually to observe at close range a fascinating array of monkeys, turtles, alligators, birds and other wildlife. This popularity as a destination generates considerable income and also risks to the environment. FAN has been working with local stakeholders on a strategy to bolster ecotourism while mitigating or reversing any detrimental effects on the environment and assuring the benefits to the participating communities. The committee on tourism that is organizing to pursue these goals incorporates tour operators, farmers and ranchers as well as representatives of the municipal government and small businesses. FAN will work with the committee to study the environment, develop new attractions and explore opportunities to learn from other municipal protected areas. A training program covers all facets of responsible ecotourism. FAN will also assist the municipal government with its plans to manage Santa Rosa de Yacuma and will construct a center serving tourists. Its ultimate goal is to involve community residents in a shared vision of ecotourism that can bring about lasting grassroots development.—Kevin Healy, IAF representative



KEVIN HEALY

BRAZIL

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 32

IAF commitment:
\$8,758,081

Counterpart value:
\$15,816,543

Total investment:
\$24,574,624

Areas of emphasis:

Agriculture, conservation,
corporate social respon-
sibility, enterprise devel-
opment, and inclusion
of African descendants,
indigenous Brazilians,
women and young people.

New Grants

Centro Ecologico (CE), \$347,400 over three years; counterpart committed, \$281,800.

CE will train 300 farmers in Rio Grande do Sul to diversify and expand organic production, including by intercropping native trees; provide related technical assistance; and help the farmers further develop their cooperatives' processing facilities. (BR-869)

Center for Digital Inclusion Amazônia (CDI), \$175,420 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$273,790.

CDI Amazônia will offer hands-on training in refurbishing computers, build upon its campaign to promote awareness of e-waste, add more collection points for e-waste and develop its enterprise that sells reconditioned computers. Its work, which will reach the area served by CDI Pará as well, will benefit 480 Brazilians directly and 1,050 indirectly. (BR-870)

Instituto Fazer Acontecer (IFA), \$209,030 over three years; counterpart committed, \$301,695.

IFA, which uses sports to spur community development, will organize training for educators, educational activities for young Brazilians in rural Bahia and forums on sports in education and the social impact of the World Cup and Olympics. Activities will benefit 1,610 Brazilians directly and another 10,000 indirectly. (BR-871)

Centro de Tecnologias Alternativas Populares (CETAP), \$280,935 over three years; counterpart committed, \$322,112.

CETAP expects to improve the production and marketing of organic produce grown by farmers resettled in northwestern Rio Grande do Sul pursuant to Brazil's program of land reform. It will connect these farmers to urban groups interested in processing the produce for sale. A total of 2,500 Brazilians in both cohorts should improve their income. (BR-872)

Market organized by CETAP.

DAVID FLEISCHER





Centro Ecologico intercrops trees with vegetables.

Associação de Desenvolvimento Comunitário de Batayporã (ADEPORÃ), \$87,500 over two years; counterpart committed, \$132,350.

ADEPORÃ will work with farmers resettled in Batayporã, Mato Grosso do Sul, as a result of land reform, to plant community gardens in idle or degraded areas, and organize a cooperative that supplies wholesalers, school lunch programs and government agencies that distribute food to the poor. Approximately 500 rural families as well as local schools and markets will benefit from increased availability of food. (BR-873)

Associação de Cooperação Técnica para o Desenvolvimento Humano-Outro Olhar (OUTRO OLHAR), \$301,890 over three years; counterpart committed, \$304,600.

Outro Olhar will work with the Popyguá Solidarity Network, composed of representatives of indigenous Guarani communities Santa Catarina and Paraná, to develop microenterprises, improve

infrastructure, record oral history, preserve the environment and reduce dependency on public assistance. Some 300 Guarani will benefit directly. (BR-874)

Associação dos Remanescentes do Quilombo de Pombal (ARQP), \$285,350 over three years; counterpart committed, \$462,230.

ARQP will work with 160 Afro-Brazilian farmers resettled through land reform in São Tiago, municipality of Santa Rita do Novo Destino, state of Goiás, to develop the association's fund for farm equipment and to launch a cooperative that buys produce to sell in volume. (BR-875)

A Casa Verde Cultura e Meio Ambiente (Casa Verde), \$307,780 over three years; counterpart committed, \$739,624.

Casa Verde will work with quilombola communities and farmers resettled pursuant to land reform, to improve production, reinforce traditional practices and preserve biodiversity in the states of Goiás, Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul. Some 1,000 families should benefit directly and another 3,500 indirectly. (BR-877)

Geledés Instituto da Mulher Negra (Geledés), \$161,500 over three years; counterpart committed, \$393,530.

Geledés will train 120 Afro-Brazilian women from marginalized neighborhoods in São Paulo to provide information on domestic violence, health care, the judicial system and the availability of legal services to victims of discrimination based on gender or race or on other violations of basic civil rights. (BR-878)

Cooperativa de Agricultores Ecológicos do Portal da Amazônia (Cooperagrepa), \$43,000 over one year; counterpart committed, \$29,500.

Cooperagrepa will develop a plan to organize farmers in municipalities in northern Mato Grosso and assist with their production and marketing of native fruits and vegetables certified as organic. (BR-879)



COURTESY FIB

Supplemental Grants

Centro Nordestino de Medicina Popular (CNMP), \$15,800; counterpart committed, \$970.

CNMP organized a regional seminar for representatives of Northeastern communities in which it has worked to reduce health risks, encourage civic engagement and develop alternative sources of income. Topics included support for ongoing activities. (BR-835-A3)

Centro de Apoio Sócio-Ambiental (CASA), \$48,045; counterpart committed, \$236,047.

Parallel to the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), CASA organized a workshop for 40 representatives of grassroots groups to debate issues raised, share experiences and use social media to create an online community that continues the exchanges beyond the conference. (BR-846-1)

Federação de Instituições Benéficas (FIB), \$126,335; counterpart committed, \$200,325.

FIB will conduct four workshops on its training for women construction workers, directed at representatives of civil society, government and businesses in the state of Rio de Janeiro; will develop an online database to improve its graduates' employment rate with construction companies; and will produce a publication on its Projeto Mão na Massa. (BR-855-2)

Fundação de Defesa dos Direitos Humanos Margarida Maria Alves (FDDHMMA), \$55,930; counterpart committed, \$42,690.

FDDHMMA will include mediation in its course for legal specialists, extend training into communities in rural Paraíba and continue to offer the full course in the city of João Pessoa. (BR-861-A1)

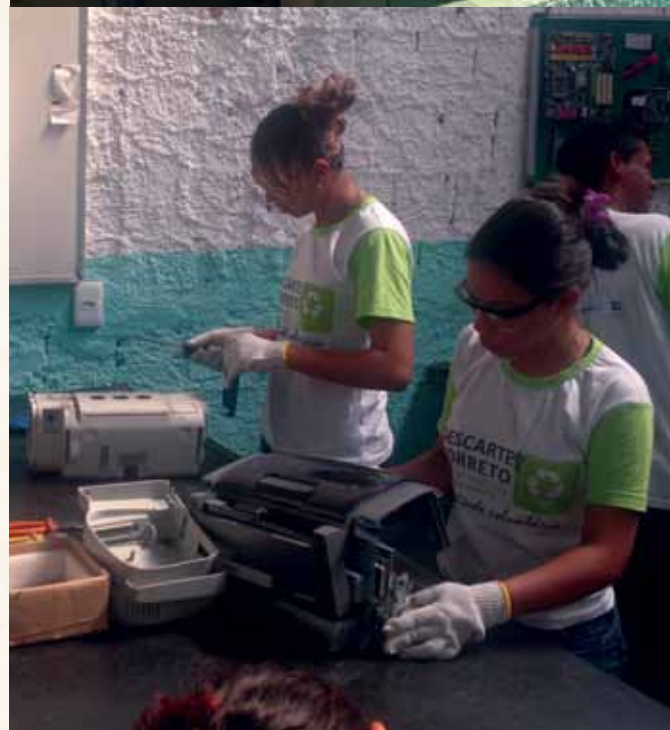
E-Waste: The Next Wave for Recycling

According to the *Brazil Quarterly PC Tracker* for 2011, Brazilians purchase more than 8.5 million personal computers annually and their country leads the world's emerging economies in the production of e-waste—the electronic devices and parts that are abandoned as they wear out, become obsolete or are simply displaced by ever more powerful models. The presence of lead and other toxins makes the accumulation of unattended e-waste a serious hazard for the environment and for human health.

The **Center for Digital Inclusion** (CDI), headquartered in Rio de Janeiro, is a pioneer in the movement that has expanded access to digital technologies and applications. Founded in 1995, the organization now encompasses a network of 816 autonomous, worker-managed centers located in communities across Latin America. For more than 10 years, CDI's affiliate in the state of Amazonas, the Center for Digital Inclusion Amazônia (CDI Amazônia), has used information technology to spark community engagement in grassroots development. It has support from schools and local businesses as well as the British nonprofit Computer Aid International and the Brazilian subsidiaries of Coca Cola, Royal Phillips Electronics and Microsoft. These partnerships have resulted in an annual “Responsible Discard” week that raises awareness of e-waste and includes massive drives to collect materials.

More recently, CDI Amazônia began specifically addressing the danger of e-waste in Manaus, and, with its IAF award, will take recycling to a new level by training young people in the safe reuse of the materials, and, through its current partners and the Manaus Free Trade Zone, will help the trained workers find employment. The award will also finance more e-waste collection points in Amazonas, the continuation of “Responsible Discard” week and the development of CDI Amazônia's enterprise that sells reconditioned computers. These creative solutions will be shared with CDI Pará, which recently introduced the recycling of e-waste. CDI Pará has 26 centers in 11 municipalities of the neighboring state, which offer basic health services along with training in information technology and library management to more than 22,000 Brazilians. The IAF's award to CDI Amazônia will allow residents of Pará to learn to recycle e-waste into handicrafts and to launch a campaign to promote public awareness.

While the IAF has a solid history with community-based recycling, CDI Amazônia's initiative that incorporates a new target population and different materials represents the next wave. Legislation passed in July 2011 anticipates the professionalization of traditional Brazilian waste pickers, a critical juncture in the recycling movement that coincides with the need to manage e-waste.—Amy Kirschenbaum, IAF representative



COURTESY CDI AMÁZONIA

COLOMBIA

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 24

IAF commitment:
\$7,072,946

Counterpart value:
\$8,928,444

Total investment:
\$16,001,390

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, conservation,
corporate social respon-
sibility, education, enter-
prise development, legal
services, and inclusion
of African descendants,
indigenous Colombians
and young people.

New Grants

Corporación Socioecológica para el Futuro de Bolívar (Ecofuturo), \$245,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$109,435.

Ecofuturo will work in the municipalities of Bolívar, El Dovio and Versalles, department of Valle del Cauca, to improve land use in 50 private reserves and on farms, offer educational activities on conservation in five rural schools and facilitate collaboration involving community residents and local authorities toward the designation of three sections of public land as protected areas. The project is expected to benefit 385 Colombians directly and another 6,000 indirectly. (CO-531)

Red Departamental de Mujeres Chocoanas (Red Departamental), \$190,870 over three years; counterpart committed, \$114,632.

Red Departamental will engage its members in a planning process expected to update information on them, their needs and their priorities. It will also offer training in gender and social development leading to certification. The project is expected to benefit 140 women directly and another 1,113 indirectly. (CO-532)

Asociación de Productores de Panela de la Vereda Las Vegas (Asoprovegas), \$167,475 over three years; counterpart committed, \$114,397.

Asoprovegas will work with its members and two other grassroots organizations in the municipality of Tulua, department of Valle del Cauca, Asociación de Escuelas Agroecológicas Campesinas de San Rafael (Aseas) and the Asociación de Agricultores Orgánicos de San Lorenzo (Asoagro), toward better land-use practices on 57 farms, resulting in increased production of sugar cane, a more reliable food supply and greater collaboration among the three organizations. The project is expected to benefit 170 Colombians directly and another 470 indirectly. (CO-533)

Supplemental Grants

Corporación Transparencia por Colombia (Transparencia), \$114,184; counterpart committed, \$173,242.

With support from RedEAmérica member Fundación Corona and the European Community, Transparencia will expand its program encouraging citizen oversight of the use of government funds for development and services, disseminate the results of its investment and conduct educational activities. (CO-511-A4)

Fundación Para El Etnodesarrollo De los Llanos Orientales de Colombia (ETNOLLANO), \$15,050.

ETNOLLANO will collect information in Bogotá and in the department of Vichada, including cartographic data on mining and hydrocarbon activities, and share it with Sikuani, Amorua and Piaroa residents of five autonomous indigenous territories along the lower Orinoco River. (CO-512-A5)

Empresa Cooperativa del Sur del Cauca (COSURCA), \$75,570 over six months; counterpart committed, \$284,153.

COSURCA will introduce coffee bushes resistant to coffee-rust to replace those



ETNOLLANO family.

JAVIER EMILIO CRISTANCHO

damaged by the disease; will train member-farmers in the prevention of crop diseases and the identification of pests proliferating due to climate change; and will incorporate 100 additional farmers into its federation. (CO-513-A5)

Consejo Comunitario de la Comunidad Negra del Río Raposo-Palén Regional el Congal (CCR), \$50,075; counterpart committed, \$15,736.

CCR will help 13 communities disseminate their regulations related to self-government and will offer instruction in conservation at the local school and to the environmental committee of Río Raposo. The

project will impact 120 Afro-Colombians directly and another 2,800 indirectly. (CO-521-4)

Fundación Sumapaz (Sumapaz) \$90,136; counterpart committed, \$87,568.

Sumapaz will continue to work with 60 leaders drawn from 150 grassroots groups and representatives of three community-based networks in Comuna 3, a neighborhood in Medellín, toward developing skills in planning, cooperation, conflict resolution and the promotion of human rights. It will also offer residents a program in management and public policy leading to certification. (CO-522-2)

Women Working for Change in Chocó

It's great wealth of plant and animal species makes the department of Chocó one of the world's most biodiverse areas, but its people are among the poorest in Colombia. Their suffering has been compounded by the country's ongoing internal hostilities, a situation in which women and children have been especially vulnerable.

In 1992, a small group of women from Chocó were invited to participate in meetings held by the Colombian National Women's Network (Red Nacional de Mujeres). Initial exposure to women's issues motivated these participants to invite 120 others to discuss the possibility of an organization that would represent women in Chocó and advocate for their rights and opportunities. Four years later, **Red Departamental de Mujeres Chocoanas** (Red Departamental) was officially founded. Today it counts 52 member grassroots organizations representing indigenous, mestiza and African descendent women from 19 of Chocó's 31 municipalities.

Among the most significant achievements of Red Departamental is the creation of two training venues, one for programs on leadership and one for programs on policy. To date, almost 2,000 women have acquired the skills necessary to move into leadership positions and to encourage the participation of women in public life. In 2010 Red Departamental's work was recognized with the Albright Grant from the National Democratic Institute—an honor perhaps validated two years later by the outcome of local elections. Women currently hold 12 percent of all elected positions in the Chocó, up from just 3 percent before the elections held in December 2011.

With growth and success have come challenges. Women's needs range from food security, for those displaced by the conflict, to broader representation in local government. To address these issues, Red Departamental requires a plan for going forward. It will invest its IAF award in a planning process that allows women in the network to reflect on its strengths and weaknesses and redefine its direction based on a survey that updates information on members and identifies their constituents' needs and priorities. Through the network's collaboration with Fundación Universitaria Claretiana on a program on gender and social development leading to certification, activists can acquire the knowledge and skills to take their advocacy to a new level. Working together, Red Departamental's grassroots members can continue to improve conditions for women in Chocó.—*Juanita Roca, IAF representative*

COSTA RICA

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 9

IAF commitment:
\$1,491,300

Counterpart value:
\$2,459,883

Total investment: \$3,951,183

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (organic),
conservation, corporate
social responsibility,
enterprise development,
resource mobilization,
inclusion of indigenous
Costa Ricans.

New Grant

Alianza Comunitaria Conservacionista de Turismo Alternativo Rural (ACTUAR), \$155,700 over three years; counterpart committed, \$743,600.

ACTUAR will open a café, gallery and store in San José to sell the products of its 40 member organizations and promote community tourism. More than 200 Costa Ricans will benefit directly and another 800 indirectly. (CR-337)

Supplemental Grant

Cooperativa Autogestionaria de Servicios Profesionales para la Solidaridad Social, R.L. (CoopeSoliDar), \$34,760; counterpart committed, \$29,100.

CoopeSoliDar will continue its work with organizations of fishers, businesses, the Costa Rican Coast Guard and the municipal government of Garrabito, Puntarenas, toward community management of a marine reserve and the development of alternative sources of income that reduce pressure on marine resources. (CR-329-A1)



CoopeSoliDar member.

MARCY KELLEY

Win-Win for Visitors and Residents

Tropical beaches, luxuriant rain forests and towering volcanoes make Costa Rica a major destination for travelers from North and Central America and Europe. In 2010 the country hosted more than 2 million foreign tourists; the resulting revenues represented 5.5 percent of the gross domestic product. Many visitors were ecotourists interested in the enrichment that rural destinations provide through exposure to *la pura vida*—the sights, music, cuisine and daily life enjoyed by Costa Ricans themselves.

Alianza Comunitaria Conservacionista de Turismo Alternativo Rural (ACTUAR), a not-for-profit organization founded in 2001, promotes community-based tourism through 40 inns and tour enterprises owned and operated by cooperatives, women's and youth groups supplementing income from farming and fishing. ACTUAR provides these rural entrepreneurs technical assistance and training, extends them loans, markets packaged tours and manages an online reservation service.

Options for travelers booking through ACTUAR range from long-term rentals to accommodations for day-trippers and with the lodgings come other possibilities. La Casona Tortuguero, a family-operated bed-and-breakfast with direct access to Tortuguero National Park, for example, offers guests excursions by barge along the canals and a tour to observe the turtles for which the park is named. Visitors to the Keköldi Indigenous Reservation are housed in rooms whose balconies let them enjoy the serenity of their surroundings deep in the rain forest. Local hosts offer the opportunity to experience Bribri and Cabecar food, customs and story-telling.

ACTUAR will use its IAF funds to remodel its headquarters in San José with an art gallery, a café serving typical fare and providing Internet access, and an outlet selling items produced by ACTUAR's members, such as organic coffee and soap. Staff will use the space to develop itineraries that take visitors to watch sea turtles and birds, climb volcanoes or help out on a coffee farm. The reasonable cost includes cultural immersion and—because all ACTUAR members apply practices compatible with the responsible use of the environment—an opportunity to become involved in conservation. Everything adds up to an unforgettable experience that enlightens tourists and generates needed income for rural Costa Ricans and their communities. For more information, visit <http://www.actuarcostarica.com>.—*Amanda Hess, IAF program staff assistant*

COURTESY ACTUAR



Cataratas Don Lorenzo, a destination for hikers who book through ACTUAR.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 7

IAF commitment: \$2,105,585

Counterpart value: \$2,163,812

Total investment: \$4,269,397

Areas of emphasis:

Agriculture (agro-forestry), corporate social responsibility, education, enterprise development, women's rights.

New Grants

Acción Callejera Fundación Educativa (Acción Callejera), \$250,310 over three years; counterpart committed, \$243,995.

Acción Callejera will offer classes to 2,700 children in poor neighborhoods in Santiago, teaching or reinforcing academic skills. It will train parents, educators and community leaders to recognize when children are at risk and will organize adults into groups responsible for monitoring conditions in their communities, intervening on behalf of vulnerable children and working toward public policies benefitting children and adolescents. (DR-343)

Instituto para la Autogestión y el Desarrollo de Base (INADEB), \$348,365 over three years; counterpart committed, \$213,170.

INADEB will work with 150 members of the Asociación de Agricultores San José, a

federation of coffee farmers from Palo Alto, Santiago, to improve their production, processing, storage and domestic sales of organic coffee. Farmers are expected to earn more income while increasing forest cover and preserving biodiversity. (DR-344)

Núcleo de Apoyo a la Mujer (NAM), \$276,350 over three years; counterpart committed, \$186,685.

NAM will expand services offered to victims of family, gender and sexual violence, and will strengthen institutional networks dedicated to preventing such violence in Santiago and Moca. The project is expected to benefit 1,385 victims, members of grassroots and nongovernmental organizations and local public-sector employees. (DR-345)

COURTESY ACCIÓN CALLEJERA



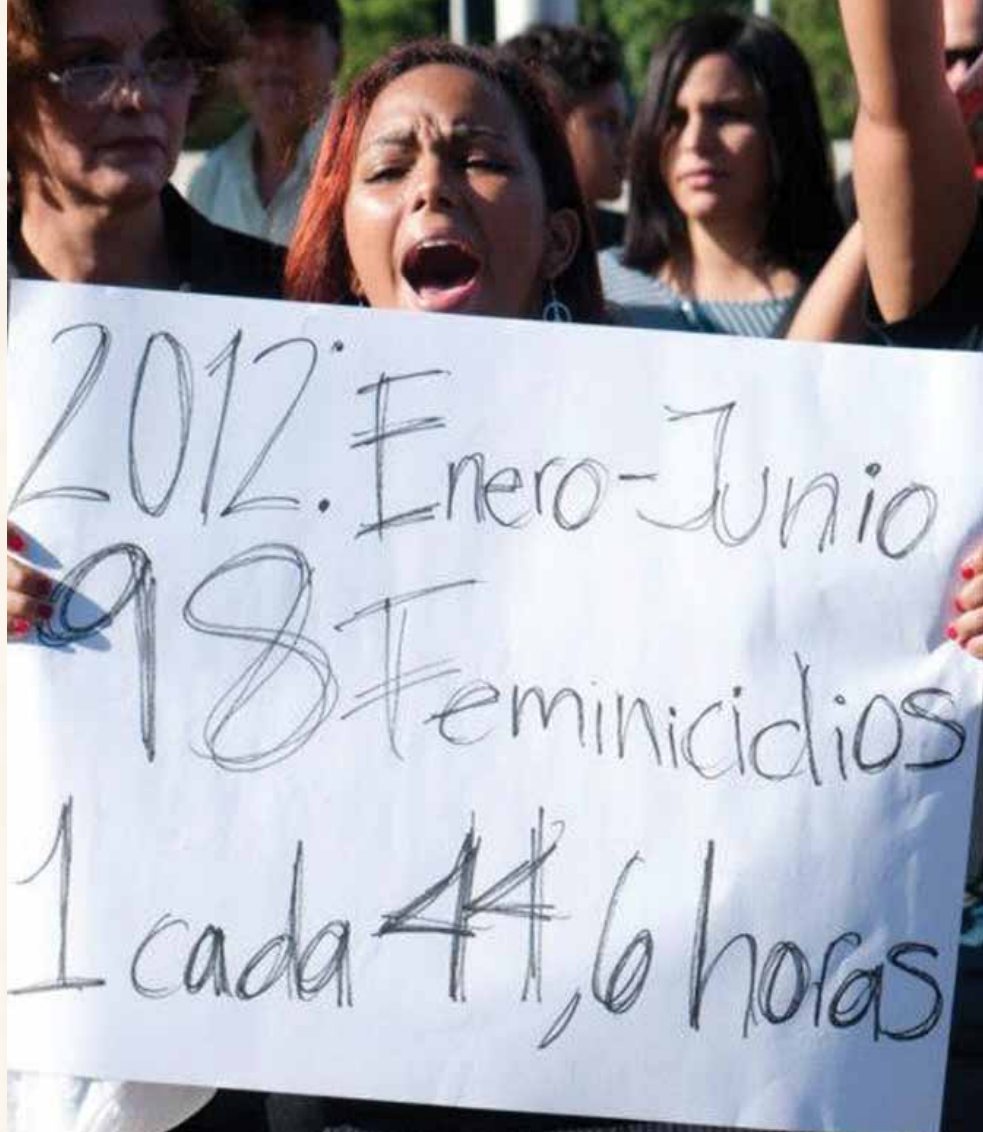
Combating Violence against Women

In 1997, the Dominican Congress acknowledged the prevalence of violence against women with legislation calling for the prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators. That was a significant step forward, but a tragic increase in murders indicates that violence against women remains a scourge that threatens Dominican society.

Núcleo de Apoyo a la Mujer (NAM), a nongovernmental organization founded in 1987, has been working to combat violence directed at women, children and adolescents and was consulted on the drafting of the 1997 law. NAM offers the victims of abuse access to legal and psychological support and educational services. Its office is located in Santiago de los Caballeros, in the Cibao region, where Minerva, Patria and María Teresa Mirabal, known as “the Butterflies,” formed their movement in opposition to the authoritarian regime of Rafael Trujillo,

who ruled the country from 1930 until his assassination in 1961. Much admired during their lifetime, the sisters became revered after they were brutally murdered on Nov. 25, 1960, for their activism. So powerfully do the Butterflies symbolize women’s resistance to oppression and injustice that the United Nations General Assembly selected the date of their death to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

An IAF award to NAM in 1995 (DR-254) supported the founding of the Movimiento de Vida Sin Violencia [Movement for Life without Violence] (MOVIDA), a network of organizations dedicated to stopping the violence. NAM will use its current award to extend its services in Santiago and Moca and to continue the work of MOVIDA and Centro de Ayuda a la Mujer (CAM), a service center for rural women from the province of Espaillat. Specifically, NAM will offer training in the prevention of violence to representatives of nongovernmental and grassroots organizations, who will learn to analyze the prevalence of violence in their communities, to identify victims of abuse and refer them for services, and to monitor their cases through the justice system. NAM’s training will focus as well on members of youth networks, who will then train other young people. In partnership with the Dominican Bar Association, NAM will launch training for lawyers on the rights of victims. Former clients will work as volunteers providing legal and psychological support. Regularly scheduled meetings with municipal authorities, prosecutors and representatives of NGOs that address violence should result in stronger protective services. NAM’s volunteers expect to issue regular reports confirming whether all parties have honored their commitments.—Alexis Toussaint, IAF program staff assistant



COURTESY NAM

ECUADOR

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 9

IAF commitment:
\$1,847,325

Counterpart value:
\$1,739,570

Total investment:
\$3,586,895

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, cultural
expression, enterprise
development, inclusion of
African descendants.

New Grants

Fundación para la Vida Sostenible Yanapuma (Fundación Yanapuma), \$207,600 over four years; counterpart committed, \$335,400.

Fundación Yanapuma will work with four indigenous Tsáchila communities near Santo Domingo de las Tsáchilas to cultivate cacao and family gardens using methods compatible with the responsible use of the environment, to market their production and to begin to process cacao into paste and candy. The project will benefit 130 farmers and 650 family members. (EC-425)

Agrupación Afro-Ecuatoriana “Mujeres Progresistas” (AAMP), \$186,700 over four years; counterpart committed, \$210,050.

AAMP will build a center to house three new community businesses in the underserved

neighborhood of Comunidad Nigeria, Isla Trinitaria, in Guayaquil: a restaurant with a conference room, a beauty salon and a hostel. AAMP's 300 members will benefit directly and 5,000 family members and neighbors should benefit indirectly. (EC-426)

Fundación de Organizaciones Campesinas de Salinas (FUNORSAL), \$307,750 over three years; counterpart committed, \$383,800.

FUNORSAL will expand Hilandería Intercomunal Salinas (HIS), its model enterprise that produces industrial-quality thread, into six additional locations. It will work with the residents, comprising 480 indigenous sheep and alpaca farmers, to improve their herds, launch businesses and organize as communities. The project is expected to benefit 1,000 families in the provinces of Bolívar, Tungurahua and Chimborazo. (EC-427)

COURTESY FUNDACIÓN YANAPUMA



Change to Preserve a Way of Life

Ecuador's 2,500 indigenous Tsáchila citizens live in seven villages located on the lowest western slope of the Andes, where the mountains merge with the coastal lowlands. For the last 30 years, they have cultivated plantains and beans destined for market in Santo Domingo de las Tsáchilas, the sprawling provincial capital. Villagers use the cash to buy food and resort to loans to finance their farming, including the purchase of fertilizers that degrade the land remaining to them. Urbanization has made its way to the edge of the Tsáchila's ancestral territory, and with it the lure of better opportunities in the city. Those who leave the community will be ostracized if they return; without the development of sound economic options in their villages, young Tsáchila are faced with a cruel choice.

Fundación para la Vida Sostenible Yanapuma (Fundación Yanapuma) works to alleviate poverty and promote environmental stewardship and education in marginalized

communities, funded in part by income from its Spanish-language school catering to gap-year European students. In 2009, Fundación Yanapuma received a small grant from the IAF to train a group of Tsáchila to cultivate cacao, with the expectation that they would promote the crop to other farmers. In practice this was difficult. Tsáchila families live isolated from each other throughout the rain forest and are unaccustomed to sharing what they know. Additionally, men and women farm separately, which further restricts the transfer of knowledge, even within a household. Fundación Yanapuma successfully adapted by using demonstration plots and by focusing on women and on younger farmers who were more open to change. As a result, cacao will soon be cultivated on 40 hectares, in addition to the 12 hectares planted by the original trainees.

Fundación Yanapuma will use its new IAF award to work with the Tsáchila to develop cacao and vegetables into dependable sources of income. Its training will reach 130 farmers in four villages, who will learn to apply organic methods, to develop nurseries to supply native trees to shade the cacao, and to process cacao into paste and candy. Vegetable gardens, launched via demonstration plots planted near schools, will have the added benefit of defraying the cost of food. Workshops will focus on certification of the vegetables as organic and fair trade as well as on food preparation and nutrition. Exposure to a vanishing aspect of an ancient heritage will complement the introduction of modern technologies. Many younger Tsáchila cannot identify native plants associated with traditional medicine. They will learn from elders to recognize these plants and understand their function, which should reinforce this indigenous people's reputation as healers and could lend cachet to the new products.—*Marcy Kelley, IAF representative*



COURTESY FUNDACIÓN YANAPUMA

Learning to cultivate cacao.

EL SALVADOR

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 20

IAF commitment: \$3,965,806

Counterpart value:
\$3,169,454

Total investment: \$7,135,260

Areas of emphasis:

Community enterprises, the diaspora and development, conservation, and inclusion of indigenous Salvadorans, women and young people.

New Grants

Asociación para el Desarrollo Empresarial de Productores y Comercializadores Centroamericanos (ADEPROCCA), \$258,600 over three years; counterpart committed, \$194,375.

ADEPROCCA will develop the leadership and organizational and technical skills of 150 residents of six municipalities in the departments of Chalatenango and San Salvador, enabling them to take advantage of opportunities to improve and market their services as tailors and shoemakers and their

silk-screened items. Some 65 percent of these Salvadorans are women and 60 percent are young adults. (ES-255)

Asociación Coordinadora de Comunidades Unidas de Usulután (COMUS), \$269,120 over three years; counterpart committed, \$268,580.

COMUS will form a marketing network in the municipalities of San Francisco Javier, San Agustín, Jiquilisco and Ozatlán and will otherwise work to expand microbusinesses, improve the distribution of their products, develop the organizational skills of community associations and increase family income. The project is expected to benefit 442 Salvadorans directly and 2,000 indirectly. (ES-256)

Asociación Adolescente Juvenil Amigos de Apopa (AJA), \$38,915 over one year; counterpart committed, \$10,395.

AJA will involve residents of three communities in the municipality of Apopa, department of San Salvador, in assessing their needs and ordering their priorities, improving the organization of community development associations and formulating action plans. The project will benefit 90 Salvadorans directly and 1,380 indirectly. (ES-257)

Asociación Comunal Lenca de Guatajiagua (ACOLGUA), \$178,340 over two years; counterpart committed, \$137,000.

In collaboration with Comité Pro-Guatajiagua (Pro-Guatajiagua), an association of Salvadorans in Virginia, ACOLGUA will open and operate a center offering vocational instruction to young adults, including indigenous Salvadorans, and will work to refine Lenca pottery design and improve market access. The project is expected to benefit 340 Salvadorans directly and another 1,700 indirectly. (ES-258)



SETH JESSE

Members of ACOLGUA craft Lenca pottery, including comales used to cook tortillas.

Asociación Cooperativa de Productores Agropecuarios y Aprovechamiento La Taiwanesa (ACOAGROT), \$170,590 over two years; counterpart committed, \$150,280.

ACOAGROT will develop its administrative skills, generate sufficient revenue to support its activities, and provide its members training, technical assistance and capital toward improving their production of coffee, vegetables, grains and small livestock. The grant will benefit 300 Salvadorans directly and another 1,500 indirectly (ES-259)

Supplemental Grants

Asociación Comunal para el Desarrollo de la Mujer Rural (ADEMUR), \$36,650 over six months; counterpart committed, \$45,900.

ADEMUR and its members will improve their production of livestock and their meat-processing, packaging and marketing; will learn to produce organic fertilizer; and will craft leather items to sell. (ES-230-A3)

Asociación El Bálsamo (EL BÁLSAMO), \$128,950 over three years; counterpart committed, \$124,960.

EL BÁLSAMO will improve its processing infrastructure, help Cooperativa Añil Cielo Azul produce and sell indigo-based crafts and offer other support to farmers participating in its project to revitalize the organic cultivation of indigo in Cuisnahuat, Sonsonate. (ES-238-A4)

Instituto de Investigación, Capacitación y Desarrollo de la Mujer (IMU), \$80,430; counterpart committed, \$46,470.

IMU will assist women in three grassroots associations in the department of Ahuachapán with replacing crops and livestock destroyed by heavy rains, mitigating the effects of climate change through more diversified production and accessing markets. (ES-239-A1)



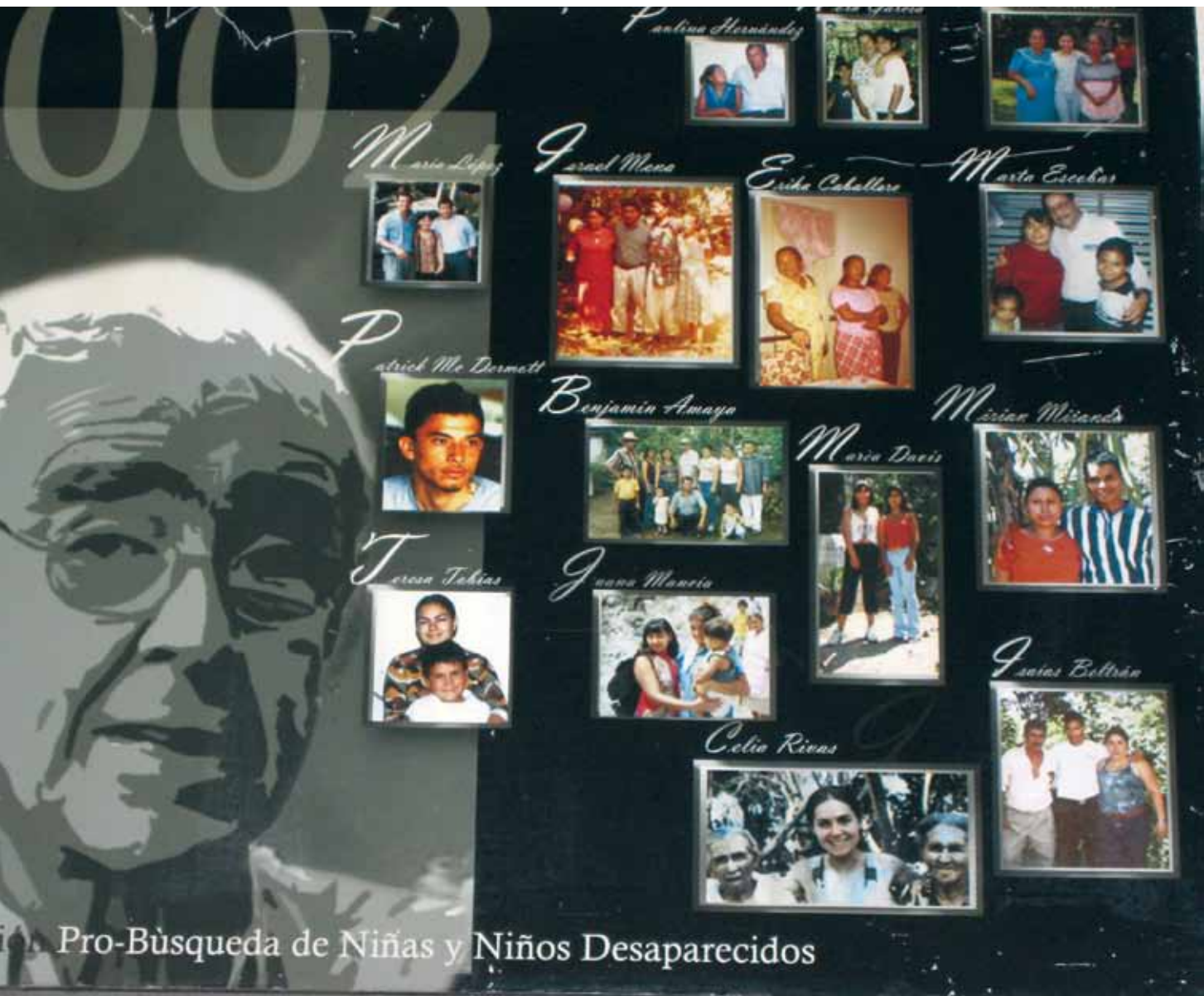
MEGAN FLETCHER

Asociación Pro-Búsqueda de Niñas y Niños Desaparecidos (Pro-Búsqueda), \$27,895 over six months; counterpart committed, \$24,200.

Pro-Búsqueda will assist farmers who were separated from their families or were affected by “disappearances” as a result of the civil war, with replacing crops destroyed by heavy rains and mitigating the effects of climate change through more diversified production. (ES-245-A1)

Asociación Comunal de Mujeres de Morazán (ACMM), \$10,625; counterpart committed, \$1,875.

ACMM will complete its purchase of a vehicle to use for field visits and to improve access to markets for businesses and farmers. (ES-248-A1)



Native Community, Transnational Linkage

Guatajiagua, a community in the northeastern department of Morazán, boasts a strong indigenous heritage. Etymologically, its name is traceable to the Lenca term meaning “valley of tobacco.” Pottery has for centuries been vital to the local economy and working clay by hand links the people to their ancestry. While tourists are eager to purchase the crafts, most of Guatajiagua’s output ends up with intermediaries who pay these artisans a pittance for the truckloads of comales, pitchers, flowerpots and decorative ceramics destined for markets in San Miguel and San Salvador. This arrangement, which is not unique to Guatajiagua or even new, is rooted in the long pattern of marginalization that has left El Salvador’s native peoples with a serious lack of bargaining power.

Asociación Comunal Lenca de Guatajiagua (ACOLGUA) is a community-based organization dedicated to improving the lives of indigenous Salvadorans through its cultural, social and economic programs. ACOLGUA works in Calvario, a neighborhood in Guatajiagua known for its abutting earthen dwellings that shelter multi-generational families. Small patios between clusters of these homes serve as walkways, areas for drying grains and work spaces where craftspeople produce the pottery for which Calvario is known.

To help address the myriad priorities and needs, ACOLGUA has entered into a relationship with a hometown association (HTA) based in Virginia, Comité Pro-Guatajiagua (Pro-Guatajiagua), which was legally incorporated in 2002 as a nonprofit organization whose mission includes improving conditions in its members’ community of origin. Pro-Guatajiagua has channeled relief during emergencies, provided construction materials to local schools, distributed classroom supplies and supported the community’s effort to offer residents reliable access to potable water. Its collaboration with ACOLGUA evolved naturally, in part because some families in Guatajiagua are represented in both organizations. Pro-Guatajiagua members take advantage of frequent travel home to discuss ideas and follow up on the initiatives undertaken. In 2011 and 2012, representatives of ACOLGUA, Pro-Guatajiagua and the community in El Salvador explored viable options for income-generation and worked together to prioritize them.

ACOLGUA will use its IAF funding toward the preservation of Lenca culture and training in technical skills. In addition to helping indigenous artisans refine the design of their pottery and reduce their dependence on middlemen, it plans to open a center that offers young adults vocational instruction. ACOLGUA’s project should give the IAF a special opportunity to learn how Salvadoran communities and their HTAs overseas can become more adept at identifying development goals and pooling the human, natural, social and financial resources necessary to accomplish them.—*Seth Jesse, IAF representative*



COURTESY ACOLGUA

GUATEMALA

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 14

IAF commitment:
\$2,597,323

Counterpart value:
\$3,252,546

Total investment:
\$5,849,869

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, civic engagement, community security, conservation and disaster mitigation, education, enterprise development, inclusion of indigenous Guatemalans.

Preparing xate leaves, ACOFOP.



JENNY MARTINEZ

New Grants

Asociación de Agricultores Ecológicos de la Laguna de Chicabal (ASAECO), \$157,825 over three years; of counterpart committed, \$174,555.

ASAECO will invest in training and infrastructure to improve the services that its members offer through its ecotourism complex. The goal is to increase income by attracting more visitors to Lake Chicabal and the nearby volcano. (GT-305)

Asociación Para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Juventud (ADESJU); of, \$185,680 over three years; counterpart committed, \$93,705.

ADESJU will offer a program of sports and cultural activities to 750 indigenous Maya Guatemalans in 25 affiliated community-based youth groups. It also expects to demonstrate to municipal authorities of Chiantla and Aguacatán the benefit of investing in its program to encourage young people to stay in school and to counter gang membership, alcohol and drug abuse, and migration to Mexico and the United States. (GT-306)

Asociación No Lucrativa Muj'bab'I yol (MBYL), \$179,475, over three years, counterpart committed, \$185,715.

MBYL will work with community radio stations to develop better programming; to improve technical skills that enable member-stations to promote awareness of the rights of indigenous Guatemalans; and to inform the public of the need for a regulatory framework conducive to the operation of community stations. The project will involve 60 radio technicians and should reach 66,000 listeners. (GT-307)

Asociación de Comunidades Forestales de Petén (ACOFOP), \$249,500 over three years, counterpart committed, \$210,400.

ACOFOP will offer training and related technical assistance to enable community-forestry

organizations located in the Mayan Biosphere Nature Reserve to incorporate the responsible use of forest resources into the management of their plantations of the xate palm, whose leaves are used in the floral industry. The project is expected to benefit 200 Guatemalans directly and another 1,550 indirectly and will contribute toward preserving the biodiversity of the Mayan Reserve. (GT-308)

Proyecto de Salud Sangre de Cristo (PSSC) in Guatemala: \$112,345 over three years; counterpart committed \$105,850.

PSSC will work in four schools to improve the diet and general health of children and parents in marginal communities in the municipalities of San Pedro Ayampuc and Chinautla, department of Guatemala.

Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Inhat (ASOINHAT) \$49,320 over 15 months; counterpart committed, \$36,920.

ASOINHAT will work on a plan to raise funds for its bilingual, bicultural community school serving indigenous Chuj Guatemalans in the municipality of San Mateo Ixtatán. (GT-310)

Supplemental Grants

Federación Comercializadora de Café Especial de Guatemala (FECCEG), \$68,900 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$299,696.

FECCEG will purchase a coffee roaster in order to meet the anticipated demand for its product. (GT-298-A3)

Comité de Desarrollo Campesino (CODECA), \$62,758; counterpart committed, \$91,196.

To sell loroco in the volume required in markets offering the best prices, CODECA will expand production to Monseñor Romero, a community located in the department of Suchitepéquez. (GT-300-A1)



AMANDA HESS

Transforming Youth in Huehuetenango

The department of Huehuetenango in western Guatemala lies on the misty ridgeline of the highest mountain chain in Central America, its villages and plots of corn tucked into the lushly forested countryside. With few economic opportunities and a border shared with Chiapas, Mexico, Huehuetenango is becoming a lawless transit point for drugs and migrants en route to *el Norte*. The damaging effects of migration, trafficking and violence are taking their toll, especially on the young. Currently, more than half of all Guatemalans are under 20. Those with limited resources face inadequate access to education, which reduces their job prospects—problems compounded in Huehuetenango by a lack of transportation over the poor, often impassible, roads that twist through the rough terrain.

Asociación para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Juventud (ADESJU) is a grassroots organization whose 25 youth groups represent communities scattered across the municipalities of Chiantla and Aguacatán. It was founded in 2000 by 40 community organizers, most of indigenous descent, to improve the possibilities of young people in Huehuetenango. ADESJU transforms the priorities identified by each group into an impressive array of education offerings close to where participants live so that transportation is no obstacle to opportunity. Of the 750 individuals enrolled in ADESJU's computer classes, cultural events and programs centered on sports and the arts, half are girls and young women. They are eligible for the same support that boys and young men receive from ADESJU toward complementing their education, an advantage not otherwise widely available in a culture where machismo still dominates.

ADESJU will use its IAF funding to work toward encouraging these young people to stay in their communities instead of migrating and to lead productive lives instead of resorting to crime and perpetrating violence. Because its mission is centered on the ability of individuals to articulate their needs so that they can address them, its project calls for training in leadership and negotiation. It also allows participants to express themselves through dance, music and theatre as they struggle to cope with loss when friends and family opt to migrate or with the sinister allure of gangs and drugs. Through its programs, ADESJU expects participants to acquire the self-confidence to sit down with municipal authorities and make the case for funding projects that equip young people for the future. "Youth transforming youth," Juan Carlos Carrillo, an ADESJU organizer, calls this activism geared assuring young Guatemalans further their education and work at building resilient communities in Huehuetenango, despite the daunting challenges.—*Amanda Hess, IAF program staff assistant*

HAITI

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 11

IAF commitment:
\$3,356,480

Counterpart value:
\$3,273,658

Total investment: \$6,630,138

Areas of emphasis: Agriculture and food security, enterprise development, partnerships with the diaspora, rural health and sanitation, skills training, inclusion of women and young people.

New Grants

Fondation Haïtienne pour le Maintien de la Paix Sociale/Partenariat pour le Développement Local (FOHMAPS/PDL), \$364,315 over three years; counterpart committed, \$259,680.

FOHMAPS, through PDL, its rural development program, will train 3,000 members of grassroots groups to manage agricultural, community health, conservation and micro-credit activities in Haiti's North and Artibonite departments. It will develop the leadership that enables the groups to form larger organizations and become self-sufficient. (HA-216)

Supplemental Grants

Mouvement Paysan 3ème Section Camp-Perrin (MP3K), \$115,000; counterpart committed, \$40,500.

MP3K will develop a program to train farmers from the surrounding departments in the minisett method of yam propagation, will form a network of yam producers and will hire a marketing specialist to identify buyers who purchase yams in bulk. (HA-203-A4)

Fondation Festival Film Jankèl (FFFJ), \$79,650 over two years; counterpart committed, \$270,910.

FFFJ will draft a fundraising and development plan that enables its Ciné Institute to continue to train young people to work in Haiti's film industry. (HA-206-A3)

Oganizasyon Kominotè Fanm Veyon (OKFV), \$17,860 over six months; counterpart committed, \$3,550.

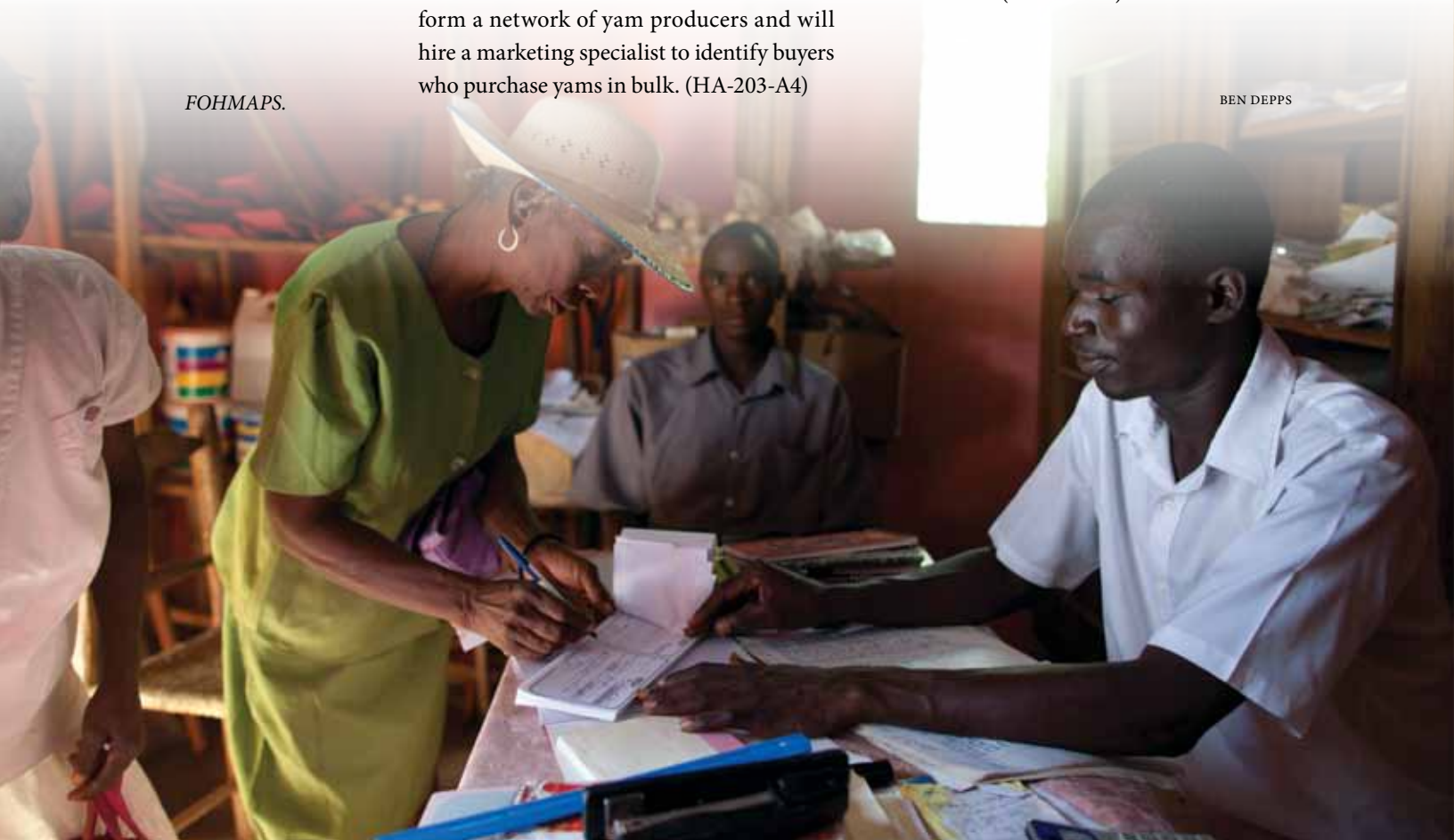
OKFV will finish building a seed-treatment and storage facility. (HA-209-A1)

L'Ecole de Fabrication Métallique pour les Démunis (EFAMED), \$21,720; counterpart committed, \$22,500.

EFAMED will work with graduates of its vocational school in Jérémie to organize a metalworking cooperative producing industrial doors, windows and gates, and agricultural tools. The project is expected to provide 50 young men a steady income; their products will benefit the entire department of Grand'Anse. (HA-215-A1)

FOHMAPS.

BEN DEPPS





Organizing for Change in Rural Haiti

Since August 24, Haiti has been buffeted by a series of natural disasters. Hurricane Isaac claimed human lives and destroyed crops, livestock, homes and tents. Cholera spiked soon after, a deadly reminder that clean water and adequate sanitation are a distant reality. Then in October, the Haitian government reported that Hurricane Sandy destroyed 70 percent of the remaining crops. Food is now more expensive than during the infamous riots of 2008. Farmers, who traditionally depend on their own production of bananas, beans and corn to get through hard times, say that winds and rain have swept away their safety net, and they are hungry.

It seems that Haitians constantly struggle with forces that converge to destabilize them. In the northern mountains, however, **Partenariat pour le Développement Local** (PDL) is helping residents take control of their lives and livelihoods. PDL works with communities and farmer associations to improve production, health, sanitation and the management of natural resources. Since its founding in 2009, it has helped form and train organizations in nine communities. With its IAF grant it will reach four more in the Artibonite and North departments.

In a country that is both the poorest in the Western hemisphere and the hemisphere's major recipient of U.S. aid, PDL understands that development is as much about people as it is about money. Its strategy includes developing diverse pools of leadership and encouraging broad participation, both important to preventing the concentration of power in the hands of the few. PDL also helps communities discover assets. Before beginning work with any organization, PDL requires members to pool resource—labor, cash, seeds. “A lot of organizations came and loaned money. But the money leaves and people never really develop,” said Pastor Edwin Saint Val of Bailly, or Bay in Kreyol. Saint Val invited PDL to Bay to help residents address problems together. They formed Inyon Gwoupman Peyizan Bay (IGPB). It now has community organizers in health and agriculture and manages a credit program and a seed bank.

In fact, to date, PDL has helped six committees create their own seed banks. In one year, these distributed more than 74,000 pounds of beans, pigeon peas, peanuts, corn and rice to 3,500 families. And the seed banks continue to grow. With its IAF grant, PDL will help farmers develop a more reliable food supply through seed banks, credit programs and training in low-cost ecological farming techniques. It will teach families to build latrines, make household water filters and prepare for natural disasters; women's groups will manage loan funds to capitalize their economic activities. Eventually PDL envisions a network of grassroots groups that will learn from one another, work together to protect their rights and resources, build economies and, most importantly, have a voice in the decisions that impact their lives.—*Jenny Petrow, IAF representative*

HONDURAS

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 8

IAF commitment:

\$1,958,896

Counterpart value:

\$2,535,189

Total investment:

\$4,494,085

Areas of emphasis:

Agriculture (crop diversification), access to credit, conservation, education, enterprise development, inclusion of indigenous Hondurans and young people.

New Grants

Cooperativa Femenina de Producción Agropecuaria Alianza Limitada (COFEPROAL), \$101,510 over four years; counterpart committed, \$40,590.

COFEPROAL will open and operate a multipurpose outlet in La Esperanza, the capital of the department of Intibucá, which will sell weaving supplies and other merchandise and will market indigenous crafts on a wholesale basis. (HO-255)

Organización para el Empoderamiento de la Juventud (OYE Adelante Jóvenes), \$127,970 over three years; counterpart committed, \$342,649.

OYE Adelante Jóvenes will develop its programs in the arts for young Hondurans at risk, its magazine and its radio broadcasts through equipment purchases, training and internships. It will work to make these activities self-sufficient so that they continue to benefit these vulnerable Hondurans and the community of El Progreso. (HO-256)

COURTESY OYE



Alternatives for Youths in El Progreso

With a homicide rate that reached 86 per 100,000 inhabitants last year, Honduras is considered one of the world's most dangerous countries. In 2011, San Pedro Sula, its largest urban center, topped the list of the most violent cities in the Americas, according to a January article in the *Christian Science Monitor*. A teeming gang population, thought to outnumber the police force and be better armed, exacts an “impuesto de guerra,” or “war tax,” from small businesses and conducts a lucrative traffic in narcotics, weapons and human beings. The crime wave, which one former U.S. Ambassador called a tsunami, spills over into El Progreso, the bustling satellite in San Pedro Sula's dark shadow. A lopsided distribution of wealth and a stagnant labor market have plunged most households in El Progreso below the poverty line and youths often drop out of school to support their families.

Organización para el Empoderamiento de la Juventud (OYE Adelante Jóvenes) has worked in El Progreso since 2005 to assure that 400 of its residents between the ages of 12 and 25 keep up their education so that their future holds positive alternatives to crime, drugs and prostitution. Most of these young men and women come from households supported by a single parent earning between \$100 and \$150 per month; some must live with grandparents or distant relatives. OYE encourages them all to stay in school and attend class. Small scholarships provide students opportunities to supplement the uneven offerings of the educational system. Individual youths may choose from after-school programs emphasizing, sports, conservation, street art and performances, or community service with volunteers from abroad who keep schools in repair. Other options include working on OYE's magazine and its online radio program.

OYE makes an effort to involve parents in their children's schools and provides regular feedback on progress in the program. It collaborates with other NGOs and businesses. In addition to building up its programs and training its staff and students in management skills, OYE will use its IAF award to launch a series of internships with print and broadcast media. Pursuing a career in journalism takes commitment and courage. More than 20 Honduran journalists have been killed during the past three years and few of these murders have been solved. Undaunted by the grim statistics, OYE's staff, supporters and young participants hold firm their belief that a free and fearless press is critical to scaling back violence and creating a more stable environment—so that young people in El Progreso have a chance.—*John Reed, IAF representative*



LATIN AMERICA (REGIONAL)

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 2

IAF commitment:
\$768,687

Counterpart value:
\$385,503

Total investment:
\$1,154,190

Areas of emphasis:
Training for practitioners,
research, inclusion of
African descendants and
indigenous peoples.

New Grant

Universidad de la Cordillera/Observatorio del Racismo en Bolivia (UNICOR), \$85,675 over one year; counterpart committed, \$40,995.

Observatories are watchdog agencies that monitor social issues and recommend steps toward reform. UNICOR will support the consolidation and expansion of the Red de Observatorios del Racismo en las Americas [Network of Observatories Against Racism in Latin America] and will develop in its members the skills necessary to document racism and work to eliminate it in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico. (LA-174)



Bolivia's diverse population counts African descendants whose significant contribution to the folk tradition includes the wildly popular Saya Caporal, a percussive celebration of carnival on Andean instruments, interpreted above by the artists of Movimiento Cultural Saya Afroboliviana (MOCUSABOL).

LINDA KOLKO

A Network to Combat Racism

In recent years, as the rhetoric of multiculturalism swept through the Americas, constitutions were rewritten to celebrate diversity and value the rights of all citizens. But the reforms have not yet succeeded in dismantling the entrenched social hierarchies that have Latin Americans of indigenous and African descent stuck at the bottom. Patterns of race-based discrimination that date back centuries are woven into the social fabric and so is the reluctance to acknowledge the daily practices that perpetuate them. Essential to combating racism is a process of research, documentation and analysis that exposes the ills, including the impact on development.

The good news is the emergence of “observatorios,” or watchdog entities, that are rising to this challenge in several countries by monitoring the expression and incidence of racism. A series of exchanges and conferences organized in 2010 and 2011 resulted in the formation of the hemisphere-wide Red de Observatorios del Racismo en las Americas [Network of Observatories Against Racism in Latin America] incorporating observatorios in Guatemala, Colombia and Bolivia along with like-minded institutions in Mexico and Brazil, the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS) at the University of Texas and the Southern Poverty Law Center, headquartered in Montgomery, Ala., an important hub of the civil rights movement in the United States. In addition to conducting research, the professionals associated with these observatorios plan to use the findings to train academics and staff from civil society organizations to inform the public of the prevalence of racism and the need for strategies.

Universidad de la Cordillera (UNICOR), located in La Paz, houses the Bolivian observatorio. An IAF award is allowing UNICOR to serve as the administrative and coordinating unit for the network and to support its consolidation and expansion. UNICOR plans to organize visits among staff of member observatorios and to conduct workshops that help members acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to collaborate and compare their findings, engage the public and recruit additional organizations. The project should expand the dialogue on racism and result in recommendations for reform and grassroots action in the countries represented in the network.

Racism is increasingly recognized as linked to poverty and inequality. It has been an obstacle to effecting the political and economic change necessary to improve the well-being of the most marginalized sectors in this hemisphere, specifically indigenous and African descendent peoples. Red de Observatorios del Racismo en las Americas, led by UNICOR, represents a transnational front against racism and a shared effort to encourage the respect and acceptance of cultural differences— so that communities are better positioned to thrive in an environment of social cohesion.—*Alejandra Argueta, IAF program staff assistant*

MEXICO

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 29

IAF commitment:

\$6,259,994

Counterpart value:

\$13,627,545

Total investment:

\$19,887,539

Areas of emphasis:

Agriculture (organic, fair trade), community museums, corporate social responsibility, credit programs, education, enterprise development, conservation (forest management, land use), inclusion of indigenous Mexicans.

New Grants

Ñepi Behña Asociación Civil (Ñepi Behña), \$220,085 over three years; counterpart committed, \$168,203.

Ñepi Behña, a nongovernmental organization, and Ya Muntsi Behña, a cooperative comprising 250 women in Hidalgo, will develop their jointly-owned enterprise operating on the principles of fair trade, through training, the application of a new strategy for reaching niche markets, and the participation of 520 women suppliers in the states of Chiapas, Puebla, Mexico State, the Federal District and Hidalgo. (ME-515)

Unión de Museos Comunitarios de Oaxaca, A.C. (UMCO), \$145,134 over three years; counterpart committed, \$353,433.

UMCO will partner with primary and secondary schools to develop the leadership, technical skills and cultural identity of children and adolescents in 15 rural communities of Oaxaca through a series of workshops, festivals, exchanges and exhibits. The activities will involve 2,700 children, 500 adolescents and 300 adults. (ME-516)

UMCO workshop for students archeologists.



COURTESY UMCO

Comunidad y Biodiversidad, A.C., \$266,232 over three years; counterpart committed, \$405,414.

COBI will work with a fishing cooperative in Quintana Roo to manage a community-based marine reserve, restore its reefs and benefit traditional fishers and local tourism enterprises. The project will directly involve 230 fishers and members of their families and will also reach 5,000 residents of villages in Quintana Roo. (ME-517)

Grupo Autónomo para la Investigación Ambiental, A.C. (GAIA), \$218,080 over three years; counterpart committed, \$458,637.

GAIA will work in Tabasco with 210 residents of seven ejidos, or indigenous communities, organized as the Unión de Ejidos de la Sierra de Huimanguillo (UNESIH) to manage natural resources and a territory extending over roughly 12,722 hectares used for agriculture, livestock and forests. (ME-518)

Instituto Mora (IM), \$121,980 over two years; counterpart committed, \$264,122.

IM will host a training program directed at preparing 40 young Mexicans between the ages of 22 and 29 for positions of leadership in community foundations. The program will offer classes in a traditional setting and online, internships with the foundations, and the opportunity to undertake research on foundation priorities. Some 700 foundation employees and volunteers are expected to benefit indirectly. (ME-519)

Fondo Acción Solidaria, Asociación Civil (FASOL), \$360,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$2,869,100.

FASOL will award 350 subgrants of up to \$6,000 to grassroots and nongovernmental organizations involved in development and conservation and will provide related technical support. At least 7,000 Mexicans should benefit directly. (ME-520)

Supplemental Grants

Innovación y Apoyo Educativo, A.C. (IAE), \$52,750; counterpart committed, \$101,250.

IAE will strengthen five student councils in schools in Chiapas and four Consejos Comunitarios de Participación Social en la Educación (COCOPASE) whose members, drawn from teachers, parents and students, work to improve education. Students will learn from each other during exchanges and can apply for subgrants to fund their proposals for better schools. (ME-488-A4)

Centro de Formación Integral para Promotores Indígenas A.C. (CEFIPI), \$85,351 over six months; counterpart committed, \$78,548.

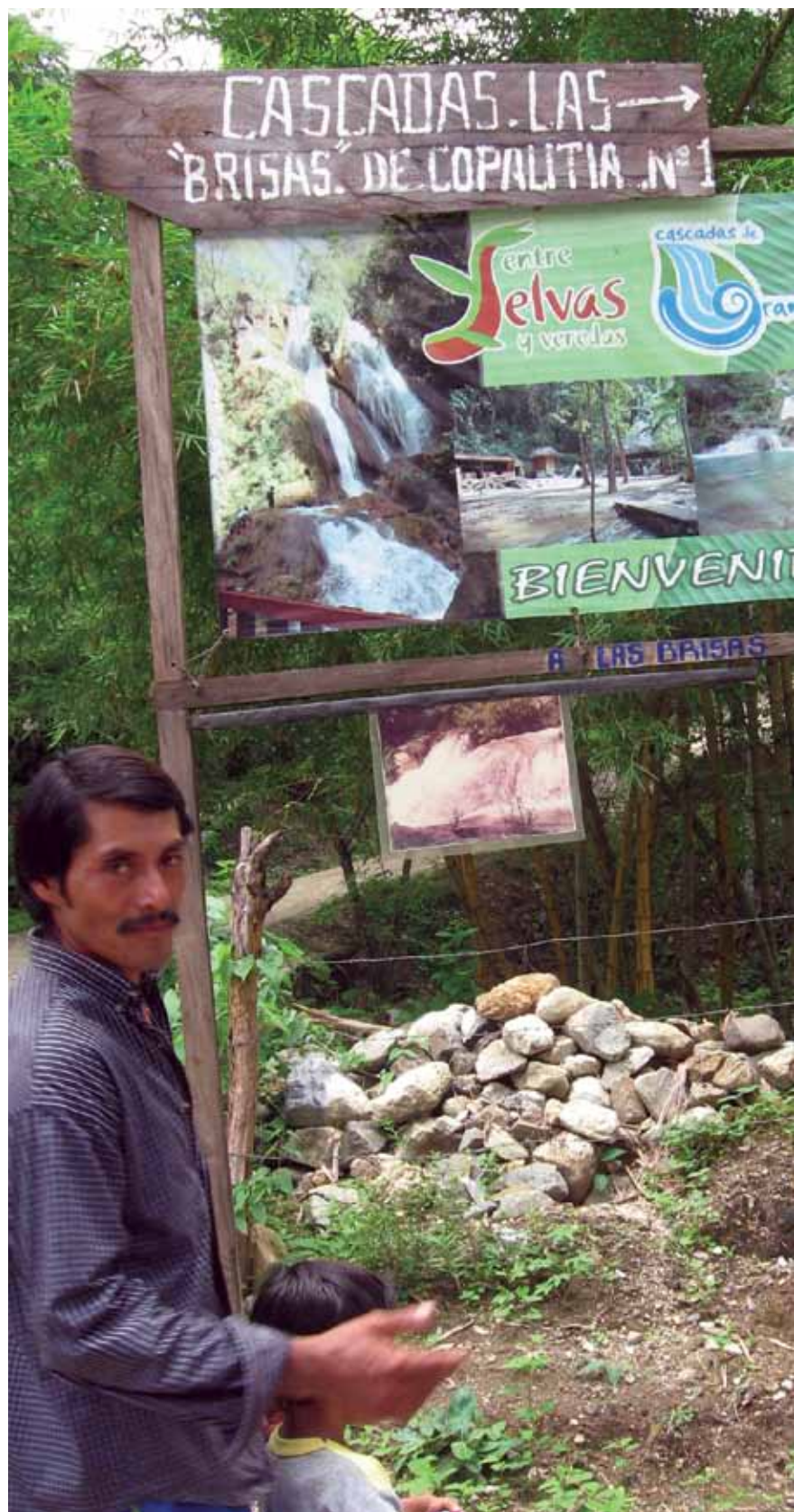
CEFIPI will train individuals who will assist in monitoring the application of practices consistent with the responsible use of the environment in indigenous communities in the municipalities of Chilón, Xihtalhá, Salto de Agua, Sitala, Palenque, Ocosingo, Yajalón, Simojovel and Pantelho. Its staff will work with two ejidos to resolve disputes and develop plans for land use. (ME-489-A2)

Sistema Comunitario para Manejo y Resguardo de la Biodiversidad de Oaxaca, A.C. (SICOBI), \$42,528 over nine months; counterpart committed, \$27,220.

SICOBI, which represents nine communities, will continue to work in the Copalita-Zimatan-Huatulco watershed in southern Oaxaca to further economic development and biodiversity and will evaluate and disseminate its experience. (ME-496-A3)

Consejo Civil para la Silvicultura Sostenible (CCMSS), \$108,900; counterpart committed, \$430,830.

CCMSS will provide the training and technical assistance that enable farmers organized as ejidos and other forms of communities to access the environmental fund developed with support from its initial IAF grant. (ME-505-A1)



MARCY KELLEY

SICOBI prepares sites for ecotourism.



A Focus on Heritage and the Future

“There are more museums here than can readily be explained: museums devoted to stamps, to pre-Columbian statuary, to the region’s cultural histories, to contemporary artists, to archaeological sites,” wrote Edward Rothstein in “The Past Has a Presence Here,” an article on Oaxaca that appeared in *The New York Times* of June 28, 2012.

Museos comunitarios, or community museums, have been emerging in Oaxaca since 1985, when the villagers of Santa Ana del Valle came upon ancient Zapotec burial objects. Rather than surrender them to Mexico’s Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH), they founded a museum, Shan-Dany, to house these and other treasures. Over the course of more than two decades, residents of other mestizo and indigenous Zapotec, Mixtec, Chatina, Mixe and Chochotcelce communities have refurbished municipal buildings, market places, abandoned haciendas, even a 16th century dwelling to host exhibits documenting local life and traditions. Indigenous communities often follow *usos y costumbres*, centuries-old practices recognized in Mexican law, to designate the individuals who serve on the committees that manage the museums and ensure their success and sustainability. The museums have revitalized local culture, boosted tourism and inspired similar initiatives throughout Mexico and Central

COURTESY UMCO





America. They are also a “rallying point for the population and locus of communal energy,” wrote anthropologist Jeffrey Cohen in the journal *Practicing Anthropology*.

More than a decade ago, local museums organized into the federation **Unión de Museos Comunitarios de Oaxaca** (UMCO). An IAF grant to UMCO in 1997 funded a center that continues to train Mexicans and foreigners in the skills needed to launch and operate spaces that display and preserve the patrimony of their respective communities.

UMCO will use its current award to focus on the future by exposing marginalized children and adolescents to archeology, storytelling, theater, indigenous weaving techniques and traditional medicine. Teenagers will learn techniques for interviewing as well as digital photography so that they can reach out to elders, record their experiences and document community life. All of the young participants will apply what they learn to projects that incorporate aspects of their heritage. In addition to partnering with primary and secondary schools, UMCO will collaborate with the Oaxaca Forum for Children, the Secretariat of Culture and the Arts of Oaxaca and INHA. Discussions between students and the adults serving on the museum committee are expected to enrich an intergenerational dialogue with mutual understanding and ensure a future stream of museum-goers and committee members. For more information, visit www.museoscomunitarios.org.—*Gabriela Boyer, IAF representative*

NICARAGUA

Current Portfolio

Active grantees: 15

IAF commitment:
\$4,165,378

Counterpart value:
\$7,525,458

Total investment:
\$11,690,836

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (basic grains,
tropical fruits, organic coffee), ecotourism, access to
water and sanitation, inclusion
of young people.

UCPCO.



New Grants

Casa Alianza (CAN), \$301,400 over three years; counterpart committed, \$190,009.

CAN will conduct outreach to young people in three neighborhoods of Managua and to their parents. It will provide adults and older children training in job skills and in microenterprise development, offer young people opportunities to participate in internships and sports leagues, and will make seed capital available to launch new businesses. Its resources include a residential drug treatment center accommodating 90 young people and a shelter for 25 teen mothers and their babies. (NC-298)

Asociación para el Desarrollo de la Costa Atlántica Pana Pana (Pana Pana), \$395,789, over three years; counterpart committed, \$473,519.

Pana Pana will enable 14 rural and peri-urban community committees on the isolated Atlantic Coast to mobilize resources from the government, nongovernmental organizations and other entities for infrastructure that provides clean water and sanitation, thereby reducing the incidence of water-borne diseases. It will also promote hygienic practices in the area. (NC-299)

Supplemental Grants

Cooperativa Multisectorial Verde Esperanza, R.L. (COMULVERL), \$118,200; counterpart committed, \$46,438.

COMULVERL will continue to provide credit, materials, training and technical assistance to farmers in El Jicaral and Santa Rosa del Peñon, department of León; to make credit and training available to owners of small retail and manufacturing enterprises; and to work toward self-sufficiency as an organization. (NC-279-A2)

Fundación Caja Rural San Lorenzo (CARUSALO) \$132,524; counterpart committed, \$308,547.

CARUSALO will continue to provide four associations of farmers in Boaco training, technical assistance and credit toward improving their production of beans, rice, vegetables and dragon fruit. It will support the farmers as they apply new irrigation strategies, construct collection centers and a greenhouse, pool their crops to market in volume to wholesalers in Managua and work toward the self-sufficiency of their grassroots organizations. (NC-280-A3)

Unión de Cooperativas Agropecuarias Productoras de Café Orgánico (UCPCO), \$110,000; counterpart committed, \$373,339.

UCPCO will improve the ability of farmers in northern Nicaragua to produce and export coffee certified as fair-trade and organic by providing equipment and financial and technical assistance and constructing branch offices, a store and a plant to process organic fertilizer. (NC-278-A4)

Unión de Cooperativas Agropecuarios Héroes y Mártires de Mirafior, R.L. (MIRAFIOR), \$110,000; counterpart committed, \$153,738.

MIRAFIOR will continue to work in the rural communities inside the Mirafior Nature Reserve to increase production of organic fertilizer and pesticide, advance water conservation and reforestation, promote the use of fuel-efficient stoves and provide credit to support ecotourism infrastructure and the production of organic coffee. (NC-282-A4)



Ricardo Bonilla, a former gang leader, is flanked by a soccer player he coaches and the National Police liaison with the neighborhood served by Casa Alianza. Nicaragua's relatively low crime rate is credited in part to the mutual trust and respect generated by community policing

PATRICK AHERN

Hope for the Inner City

In 1972, an earthquake devastated Managua and, four decades later, the damage is still apparent. Squatters continue to occupy the abandoned ramshackle buildings standing unsteadily in the parish of Santo Domingo, where a bustling downtown once thrived. As a neighborhood, Santo Domingo is rough and its young residents often drop out of school to sell water, sodas and snacks at traffic lights. Barely surviving and desperate for acceptance, many turn to gangs, drugs or prostitution—and a life of violence, addiction, crime and disease.

Casa Alianza of Nicaragua (CAN) is using its IAF award to work with the young residents of Santo Domingo and two similarly-marginalized neighborhoods, and with their parents, on an intensive program of community organizing. The goal is to impact families through attention, prevention and social inclusion. In addition to enlisting churches, community police, businesses and officials from local government, CAN has trained the young people in journalism and they produce a newsletter and other materials designed to help mobilize the residents of the three neighborhoods. As a result, thousands have attended CAN's community meetings and are joining in the effort to improve housing and create green spaces offering safe opportunities for recreation. Other training qualifies young residents to organize sports and cultural activities for their peers as well as workshops on leadership, life skills, the dangers of drug abuse and the prevention of HIV/AIDS.

An important principle underlying CAN's work is that long-term stability for families and youths depends on jobs. CAN offers 200 youths and adults classes in mechanics, tailoring, baking, computer literacy, English and other skills geared at qualifying them for the job market. Some trainees are learning to draft business plans; those who develop the most promising plans receive materials or funds toward start-up as well as ongoing mentoring and technical assistance. CAN offers young people opportunities to learn on the job via placement as interns with potential employers.

Participants have access to medical, legal and psychological resources, including CAN's home for pregnant girls and its drug treatment center. As an example of what its support can accomplish, CAN points to Ricardo Bonilla, once the leader of a gang called Los Pica and now a community activist, thanks to CAN's rehabilitation center. Bonilla uses soccer to provide structure for at-risk youths. Scoring Goals against Drugs and Violence is the catchphrase; to join, players must commit to staying in school and avoiding drugs. Bonilla recently coached his team to the league championship. "The biggest prize was the opportunity to help these troubled kids," Ricardo said as he showed off the team's trophy.—*Patrick Ahern, IAF representative*

PANAMA

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 13

IAF commitment:
\$2,580,305

Counterpart value:
\$2,602,372

Total investment: \$5,182,677

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture (organic),
access to water, handicraft
development, inclusion of
indigenous Panamanians
and women.

New Grants

Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (ANCON), \$262,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$279,100.

ANCON will work with African descendent and indigenous groups in 10 communities in and near the Punto Patiño Reserve in the Darien to conduct feasibility studies and provide seed funding for micro- and small enterprises that are compatible with the responsible use of the environment. The project will benefit 200 entrepreneurs directly and 2,000 area residents indirectly. (PN-302)

Asociación Panameña para la Sostenibilidad de la Agricultura y la Naturaleza (APASAN), \$166,250 over two years; counterpart committed, \$174,605.

APASAN will work with the Consejo Consultivo de Subcuencas de los Ríos Los Hules-Tinajones y Caño Quebrado to legally constitute and further develop a federation of 22 organizations and reforest approximately 12 hectares of upper watershed, thereby improving the water quality for 2,570 residents of the district of La Chorrera in the regions of Amador, Arosemena, Medoza and Iturralde. (PN-301)

Supplemental Grants

Club Rotario de David, \$37,300; counterpart committed, \$10,700.

Club Rotario de David will evaluate the impact of its five-year program on 2,000 individuals in 44 communities in Comarca Ngobe Bugle. (PN-285-A7)

Asociación Pro-Artesana Panameña (PRO-ARTESANA), \$76,350 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$74,760.

PROARTESANA will continue working to improve the skills, earnings, cultural pride and market participation of 350 craftspeople, mostly women, from Panama City, the central provinces, indigenous reserves and other areas. It expects to open five new markets and to become financially self-sufficient. (PN-290-A3)

Fundación de Organizaciones Campesinas e Indígenas de Veraguas (FOCIV), \$93,200 over 18 months; counterpart committed, \$60,510.

Through Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Comunitario (ADICO), FOCIV will train 20 community organizers to provide to 300 farmers and artisans technical assistance toward improving access to markets. Some will learn to build and install fuel-efficient stoves and biodigestors. (PN-293-A1)

*A traditional mola crafted
for PROARTESANA.*



Protecting the Watershed of the Panama Canal

Lago Gatún, once the world's largest artificial lake, is crucial to the operation of the Panama Canal. In addition to providing smaller vessels a shortcut to the Pacific Ocean, it acts as a reservoir that supplies the millions of gallons required by each ship transiting the canal. In recent years, deforestation has reduced the volume of water that the lake's watershed can absorb. The consequences for the canal are obvious. Collateral results that threaten nearby communities include runoff that causes sediment to build up and pollution from cattle that now graze by rivers and tributaries.

Consejo Consultivo de Subcuencas de los Ríos Los Hules-Tinajones y Caño Quebrado (Consejo Consultivo), named for two of the rivers that form the western watershed of Lago Gatún, was founded in 2002 to improve the management of the watersheds in 10 farming communities where 3,000 Panamanians reside. The diverse array of 22 organizations comprising Consejo Consultivo includes the rural water council, environmental groups, producer associations, various cooperatives and businesses, and local-development entities. Through an umbrella organization, Consejo Consultivo benefited from funding from the United States Agency for International Development, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Panamanian government. In 2006 the funds ceased, but Consejo Consultivo continues to meet monthly to identify and prioritize local issues and find effective low-cost solutions. While its members have worked together successfully for more than eight years, Consejo Consultivo is ineligible to file for status as a nonprofit.

Asociación Panameña para la Sostenibilidad de la Agricultura y la Naturaleza (APASAN) promotes community development and conservation throughout Panama. Since 2007 it has provided Consejo Consultivo training and technical assistance with its plans for managing the environment, reforestation and its development of organizational leadership. APASAN will use its IAF award to assist Consejo Consultivo with the creation and development of a parallel association that can be legally constituted, the necessary pre-requisite to receive donor funding. The initial focus of the new organization will be the reforestation of 12 hectares of the upper watershed, and APASAN will train residents of the watershed communities in reforestation techniques and nursery management. Its IAF grant will also enable Consejo Consultivo to document its own remarkable narrative, including the unique role of women in the organization, its successful management of conflict, and how its members have improved the quality of life of a region and its watershed.—*Marcy Kelley, IAF representative*

PARAGUAY

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 11

IAF commitment:

\$2,601,818

Counterpart value:

\$3,782,657

Total investment:

\$6,384,475

Areas of emphasis:

Agriculture, civic participation, education, enterprise development, and inclusion of indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, women and young people.

New Grants

Asociación de Productores Orgánicos (APRO), \$280,125 over three years; counterpart committed, \$999,574.

APRO will train 290 families in the organic cultivation of fruits and vegetables, including off-season; provide related technical assistance; and work with them to diversify crops, add value to their production through processing and increase sales. The project should benefit 1,000 Paraguayans directly and another 1,820 indirectly. (PY-203)

Fundación Arlequin Teatro (FAT), \$49,100 over one year; counterpart committed, \$46,760.

FAT will develop the artistic and organizational skills of the 50 young Paraguayans comprising a theater group that draws its members from public secondary schools in metro Asunción. The young people will learn to organize a community cultural center and will receive assistance toward filing to legally constitute it as a foundation. (PY-204)

Supplemental Grants

Fundación Saraki (Saraki), \$81,640; counterpart committed, \$176,134.

In collaboration with the Coordinadora Nacional por la Promoción de los Derechos de las Personas Con Discapacidad (CONA-PRODIS), Saraki will train 100 representatives of disability-rights organizations to produce radio programs that raise awareness of disability rights and the importance of including people with disabilities in the 2012 census. Subgrants will be awarded to 26 organizations publicizing Saraki's programs. (PY-196-A3)

Base Educación, Comunicación y Tecnología Alternativa (Base ECTA), \$48,623; counterpart committed, \$35,410.

Base ECTA will improve its grantmaking by benchmarking its procedures against those of other similar organizations. It will also assess the feasibility of offering credit to grassroots groups to develop enterprises toward their self-sufficiency. (PY-194-A4)

COURTESY FUNDACIÓN SARAKI



Sound Practices on Small Plots

Over the past decade, the gross national product has registered impressive increases in Paraguay, where 1.5 percent of the population owns 77 percent of the land, but half of the rural population lives below the poverty line. As large swaths of forest are razed to make room for soy, corn and cattle, and the abuse of agrochemicals also works to degrade soil, life on small farms risks becoming even more precarious.

Asociación de Productores Orgánicos (APRO) was founded in the 1990s by 150 farmers in eastern Paraguay determined to make agriculture more profitable while applying methods compatible with the responsible use of their small plots. The grassroots group, whose mission is helping its members grow crops certified as organic, now comprises 290 families from 15 communities. APRO launched the first market for organic products in Asunción and pioneered home delivery in the metropolitan area. In 2000, it registered the brand ECO-AGRO Naturalmente that currently appears on organic sugar, fruits, jams, jellies and honey sold throughout Paraguay. APRO's newest product on the market is Stevia, a sugar substitute named for *stevia rebaudiana*, a plant indigenous to Paraguay now in demand internationally as a sweetener. The investment of a percentage of APRO's profits in member communities has improved access to potable water and brought electrification to schools and health centers. APRO also works beyond its membership base. It is a founding member of Paraguay Orgánico, an association of like-minded organizations that worked with the central government on legislation providing for verification by peers and consumers of a given producer's compliance with the standards for organic certification. APRO will collaborate with the National Plant Health and Seed Quality Service toward ensuring implementation of the law to the benefit of Paraguayan farmers.

APRO plans to use its IAF grant to work toward self-sufficiency by increasing its revenues from sales. Toward this objective, it will further diversify and expand its product base, specifically with organic fruits and vegetables grown off-season and with a variety of processed goods. As part of a growing movement of farmers whose practices boost production sustainably on small plots, APRO will also continue to act on its commitment to raising awareness of the impact of these practices on food production, the environment and the quality of life—as confirmed by the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IASSTD), an effort initiated by the World Bank and co-sponsored by several organizations and programs under the umbrella of the United Nations.—*Jeremy Coon, IAF representative*



JEREMY COON

PERU

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 20

IAF commitment:
\$6,115,577

Counterpart value:
\$7,515,557

Total investment:
\$13,631,134

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, conservation,
corporate social responsibility,
education, enterprise
development.



New Grants

Centro de Investigación y Promoción Social “Sara Lafosse” (CIPS “Sara Lafosse”), \$326,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$252,520.

By working with associations of dairy farmers and fishers and training new entrepreneurs, CIPS expects to increase the incomes of 200 families in the communities of El Carmelo and Huancaquito Bajo in the district of Virú, La Libertad. It will also promote cooperation among the 22 public and private entities in the Association for the Joint Discussion of Local Development of the Coastal River Basins of the Libertad Region (AMEDIVAC), which will actively support the project. (PU-569)

Instituto de Investigación para Desarrollo Rural, Agroindustrial y Medio Ambiente (IDRA PERU), \$170,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$160,410.

IDRA PERU will develop the technical and organizational skills and market access of 225 artisans in 14 associations, primarily women and young adults, enabling them to increase and diversify their production. The project should indirectly benefit another 900 residents of the eight communities located around the archeological site of Sillustani, in the district of Atuncolla, Puno. (PU-570)

Urku Estudios Amazónicos (Urku), \$272,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$340,430.

Urku will work to engage communities in the San Martín region in the conservation of their forests through an integrated program of resource management and recovery of biodiversity. In collaboration with the Federación Kichwa Huallaga Dorado (FEKIHD), it will develop ecotourism; producer networks to market coffee, medicinal plants and crafts; a system to monitor the environment; and environmental education. The project is expected to benefit 5,600 Peruvians directly,

help protect the local ecosystem and generate revenue toward the conservation efforts of the participating communities. (PU-571)

Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos (APRODEH), \$325,510 over three years; counterpart committed, \$151,095.

APRODEH will further the social inclusion of Peruvians with mental disabilities, one of Peru's most marginalized and vulnerable groups, by working toward enforcement of Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which recognizes their right to live independently and participate in community life. (PU-572)

Supplemental Grants

Centro de Estudios y Desarrollo Social-APURIMAC (CEDES-APURIMAC), \$120,000; counterpart committed, \$116,088.

CEDES-APURIMAC will provide training, technical assistance, credit and marketing services to farm families and representatives of their municipal governments as they undertake a coordinated program to develop organic agriculture. (PU-546-A3)

Asociación Arariwa para la Promoción Técnico-Cultural Andina (Arariwa), \$23,893; counterpart committed, \$7,192.

Arariwa will provide additional training and technical assistance to farmers so they maintain or increase production on their small parcels, and will help their association assume full responsibility for managing a fruit-processing plant and for marketing its products. (PU-548-A3)

Red de Municipalidades Rurales del Perú (REMURPE), \$98,100; counterpart committed, \$88,850.

To enable municipalities in Cusco, Piura, Puno and Ayacucho to access public resources for development, REMURPE will coordinate meetings, offer training and



Yupay students.

JEFY ANDRES WRIGHT

technical assistance, and provide opportunities for elected officials and municipal staff to visit the sites of successful projects and access a virtual learning platform. (PU-550-A3)

Asociación Comunidad, Promoción, Desarrollo y Liberación (COPRODELI), \$102,572; counterpart committed, \$61,380.

COPRODELI will continue to provide training and technical support to 100 micro- and small enterprises through the creation of a business incubator and dedicated industrial park. (PU-552-A3)

Centro de Investigación, Estudio y Promoción del Desarrollo Minka (Minka), \$79,700; counterpart committed, \$48,030.

Minka will assist the networks of fruit and vegetable producers formed with IAF support in accessing better-paying markets and will document

its experience for dissemination throughout Peru. (PU-556-A2)

Ayllu Yupaychay (Yupay), \$125,000; counterpart committed, \$134,100.

Yupay will continue to use the visual arts, the Quechua language and indigenous Peruvian cultural values to further the educational development of rural children between the ages of 3 and 7 in 10 Quechua-speaking communities in the Cusco region. (PU-560-A1)

Asociación Minga Perú (Minga Perú), \$49,960.

Minga Perú organized the participation of three grantee partner organizations in a celebration of the diversity of Peru's indigenous communities and their contributions to grassroots development held in July at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. (PU-563-A1)

Among the fauna in the Cordillera Escalera: blue morpho butterflies, the Peruvian squirrel monkey, the South American coati and the rare sapphire-spangled emerald hummingbird.



COURTESY URKU

An Investment in Ecotourism and the Environment

According to the Center for Responsible Travel, global ecotourism generates some \$77 billion annually. Ecotourism has become a source of income for residents of rural communities who provide lodging, food, tours, transportation and other services. As such, it offers a powerful incentive to invest in conservation, so that the surrounding environment continues to attract visitors and yield benefits into the future.

Urku Estudios Amazónicos (Urku) is a nongovernmental organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life of the people living in the region of San Martín, on the Peruvian Amazon. Specifically, Urku, which means “mountain” in Kichwa, works to further economic development that is compatible with environmental conservation, cultural diversity and social justice. Toward this end, it will use its IAF award to take advantage of—and protect—a significant asset. Seven years ago, the Cordillera Escalera, located in the southwestern zone of the province of San Martín, was designated a protected area by the provincial government. Extending over 1,500 square miles and to altitudes of from 200 to 2,200 meters above sea level, its diverse ecosystems



COURTESY URKU



LI YIHUI

provides the habitat for an extravagant range of flora and fauna, some considered rare and endangered, such as three endemic species of frogs and the spectacled bear, the inspiration for Paddington, the popular character in the children's fiction by Michael Bond. The rivers of the cordillera constitute the primary source of water for 265,000 Peruvians. Natural wonders include lakes, lagoons, waterfalls and thermal baths.

Working in collaboration with Federación Kichwa Huallaga Dorado (FEKIHD), which represents 10 indigenous Kichwa communities, Urku will develop an integrated program to manage natural resources and recover biodiversity in the Cordillera Escalera and organize services for ecotourists. Plans include the formation of producer networks that sell coffee, medicinal plants and crafts; the development of a system to monitor the ecosystem; and education on the environment for residents. Revenue generated by tourism is expected to support the conservation efforts of the participating communities comprising 5,600 Peruvians.

Deforestation is of particular concern to Urku. An estimated 1.6 billion people in the developing world depend on forests for food, fuel and livelihoods. This pressure, along with the encroachment of industrial-scale agriculture and indiscriminate logging, has exacerbated climate change and accelerated global warming, endangering natural resources and ultimately jeopardizing food security. The link between deforestation and poverty has led to a broad consensus on the need to preserve wooded areas and control destructive forces. Urku is guided by the principle that success in this direction is cornered on the active involvement of communities in the management of their forests, which its IAF grant will support and foster.—*Miriam Euclides Brandão, IAF representative*



MIRIAM BRANDÃO

Heliconia.

URUGUAY

Current Portfolio

Grantee partners: 3

IAF commitment:
\$1,034,468

Counterpart value:
\$2,049,058

Total investment:
\$3,083,526

Areas of emphasis:
Agriculture, community
tourism, corporate social
responsibility, women's
enterprises.

Supplemental Grants

Cooperativa Delicias Criollas (Delicias Criollas), \$70,000.

Delicias Criollas, comprised of 15 affiliated enterprises that are managed and supplied by 170 women from 10 Uruguayan departments, will offer its affiliates training in organic production and in marketing, along with related technical assistance, and will work to make the cooperative self-sufficient. (UR-181-A5)

Agencia de Desarrollo Productivo (ADP-CES), \$55,918; counterpart committed, \$75,545.

ADP-CES will acquire, rather than continue to rent, the machinery that it makes accessible to farmers and will otherwise work toward self-sufficiency. (UR-183-A3)



DAVID FLEISCHER

Delicias Criollas kitchen.

ADDITIONAL CURRENT PORTFOLIOS*

Chile

Grantee partners: 4
IAF commitment: \$1,058,840
Counterpart value: \$2,872,611
Total investment: \$3,931,451
Area of emphasis: Corporate social
responsibility.

Jamaica

Grantee partners: 2
IAF commitment: \$785,000
Counterpart value: \$2,012,827
Total investment: \$2,797,827
Areas of emphasis: Agriculture,
conservation.

*There was no funding in these countries in fiscal 2012.

RedEAmérica

The Inter-American Network of Corporate Foundations and Actions for Grassroots Development (RedEAmérica), an IAF-initiated business-sector alliance launched in 2002, has developed into a corps of 74 members representing more than 360 socially responsible corporations committed to supporting self-help in the hemisphere.

Much of RedEAmérica's initial work in grassroots development was undertaken pursuant to bilateral agreements between individual members and the IAF. These initially called for the corporate parties to match the IAF's contribution to their social-responsibility programs. Subsequently, they were required to double and triple the IAF's investment. In 2012, the IAF's investment of \$864,981 in cooperative agreements leveraged \$2,622,309 in corporate resources for grassroots development often undertaken by incipient or geographically isolated groups.

The IAF shares expertise and experiences in events scheduled with the network. At RedEAmérica's fourth International Forum, held Feb. 29 through March 1 in Campinas, Brazil, members discussed challenges to grassroots development: changing demographics, economic growth, evolving social-protection policies and institutional effectiveness. Robert Kaplan moderated a panel on the relationship among the parent company, its corporate foundation and the surrounding community.

A recent Memorandum of Understanding between the IAF and RedEAmérica highlights shared goals and strategies for promoting private-sector social investment in grassroots development over the next five years. In 2012, the IAF invested in three new cooperative agreements with RedEAmérica members and one supplemental grant. The Colombian chapter of Transparency International received supplemental funding from the IAF and is also supported by RedEAmérica member Fundación Corona. (See CO-511-A4 on Page 24.)

New Cooperative Agreements

Instituto Arcor Brasil (IAB), \$188,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$772,460.

IAB will work with Brazilian corporations and corporate foundations in RedEAmérica, toward more effective social investment and will administer on their behalf a fund supporting development undertaken by grassroots groups. (BR-880)

Corporación RedEAmérica (RedEAmérica), \$192,797 over one year; counterpart committed, \$155,596.

RedEAmérica will improve measurement of the impact of its on grassroots projects; study and document four successful subgrantees; encourage the application of principles of grassroots development to core business functions; and will recognize extraordinary contributions to grassroots development. (CO-530)

Corporacion Consorcio para el Desarrollo Comunitario (Consorcio), \$216,000 over three years; counterpart committed, \$561,850.

Consorcio will participate in workshops and conferences on grassroots development with other members of RedEAmérica and will administer on their behalf a fund supporting development projects undertaken by grassroots groups in collaboration with local-level government and other partners. (CO-534)

Supplemental Cooperative Agreement

Empresa para el Desarrollo, S.A. (EDES), \$154,000 over two years; counterpart committed, \$94,000.

EDES will launch eight new Empresas de Crédito Comunal, or community credit enterprises, in Chiriqui, Panama; create a Panamanian affiliate and loan fund; evaluate its project; and share the results of its experience with RedEAmérica and the IAF. (CR-328-A4)

PUBLICATIONS

The annual report for 2011 and the IAF journal *Grassroots Development* 2012 were printed in English and Spanish. The 2012 journal focuses on the IAF's long and productive history with the indigenous peoples of the Americas, highlighting their creative use of resources from their heritage—resources that have been as tangible as ancestral territory and as intangible as trust. Two articles submitted to the second juried competition for IAF Fellows were recommended for publication after intense peer scrutiny. Both offer further perspectives on the strengths and tensions in indigenous communities as they reconcile their traditions with their contemporary context. “Carbon and Community Development” by David Bray, a professor in the Department of Earth and Environment at Florida International University, a former IAF representative and a recognized authority on community forestry in Mexico, became a featured article on *Ecosystem Marketplace*, the leading website on carbon and forest carbon issues.

Among the resources reviewed in the 2012 journal was *Blackness in the White Nation: A History of Afro-Uruguay* by George Reid Andrews (The University of North Carolina Press: 2010), in which IAF grantee partner Mundo Afro figures prominently as “the most visible of Afro-Uruguayan social and civic groups” and a driving force in the progress toward full equality for Afro-Uruguayans. The IAF publication also includes a review of *Niños de la Memoria*, a film by Kathryn Smith Pyle, IAF senior representative for El Salvador from 2001 until 2007, chronicling the efforts of IAF grantee partner Asociación Pro-Búsqueda de Niños y Niñas Desaparecidos to locate Salvadorans who became separated from their families during the civil war, including children removed by soldiers from battle scenes and sent abroad for adoption.

IAF publications are accessible in English, Spanish and Portuguese on the IAF's redesigned website, which went live in 2012. The new interactive, multimedia site provides real-time information on the active portfolio and includes a dedicated section for visitors interested in opportunities to support and work with the IAF.



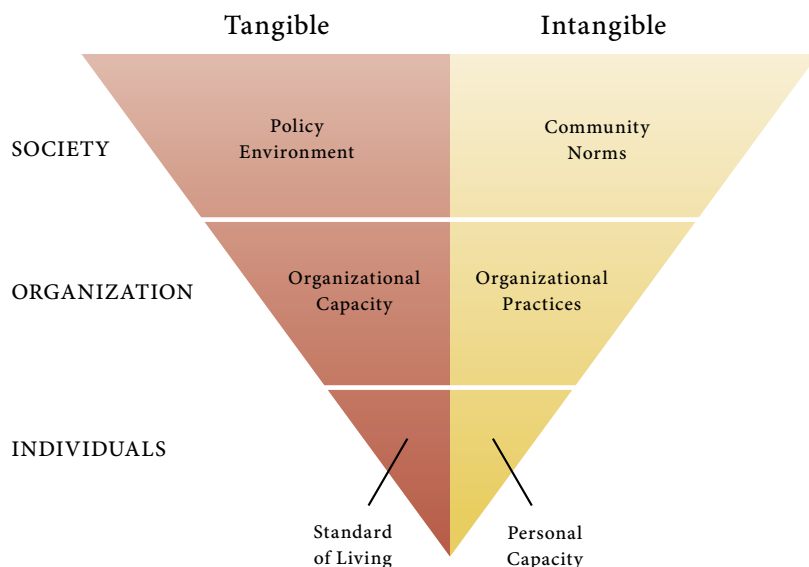
RESULTS

The IAF's robust system for reporting results has been in place for 15 years. Grantee partners report every six months on progress as measured by indicators selected from the Grassroots Development Framework (GDF), the IAF's tool for assessing data and results. After verification by professionals in-country, the information is summarized in an annual Results Report. All projects undergo a financial audit annually and upon completion. The IAF's Office of Evaluation also conducts ex-post assessments of selected projects four or five years after the funding ceased.

The IAF annual results report published in 2012 summarized the achievements of 243 active grantee partners in the previous year. Investment by the IAF and its grantee partners during this period benefited more than 91,300 men and women. These individuals included African descendants, indigenous people and persons with disabilities, as well as disadvantaged women and youths, who had opportunities to participate more fully in economic and civic life. The GDF assesses results on three levels: the individual or family (as measured by indicators of improved conditions and skills acquired); the organization (as indicated by, for example, better management and the application of democratic practices); and the community or society (as indicated by better policies, procedures and programs). The cone below depicts the three levels as they might be affected by the tangible and intangible results of the IAF's investment.

Application of the GDF helps ensure observable progress toward each grantee partner's goals, identify factors that determine success and assess long-term benefits extending beyond the achievement of immediate objectives. For more information on the GDF and its use, visit www.iaf.gov.

Grassroots Development Framework



*Former grantee
SOPPEXCCA was
among the coffee
enterprises evaluated
five years after IAF
funding terminated.*

MIGUEL CUEVAS



In fiscal 2012, the IAF conducted ex-post assessments of four grantee partners working on production for global markets, whose projects were completed in 2006. Programa Integral para el Desarrollo del Café (PIDECAFE, now known as PROGRESO) works with Peruvian coffee growers to diversify their crops and reduce the risks associated with dependency on coffee. The farmers' sale of granulated brown sugar to European buyers climbed from 180 50-kilogram bags in 2003, the first year of production, to 13,100 bags in 2011 and the demand continues to exceed supply. Asociación de Profesionales Agropecuarios Ngobe-Bugle (APANB) works with 60 indigenous Ngobe Bugle Panamanians to increase their production of coffee and has trained Ngobe women to dye fibers and make crafts as a source of income. Unión de Cooperativas Agropecuarias Sociedad de Pequeños Productores de Café (SOPPEXCA) is helping some 450 Nicaraguan coffee producers in its member cooperatives increase sales, including abroad. Another Nicaraguan former grantee partner, Proyecto Aldea Global-Jinotega (PAGJINO), provides farmers training, technical assistance, loans and supplies toward their application of agricultural practices compatible with the responsible use of the environment. The full reports are expected in 2013.

Results of the IAF's Investment in Grassroots Development

According to results reported by 243 grantees that were active in fiscal 2011, their work benefited more than 91,300 individuals, primarily as follows:

- More than 48,300 individuals acquired new skills through IAF-funded training: 14,131 were trained in agriculture; 43,401 in civic participation; 26,511 in human rights; 9,420 in manufacturing; 7,485 in finance; 7,655 in conservation; and 5,537 in leadership. Many participants enrolled in multiple training sessions covering various topics.
- Approximately 5,500 new jobs were created as a result of training, technical assistance and credit programs; 2,065 positions were saved; working conditions improved relevant to 2,162 jobs.
- More than 9,125 individuals benefited from access to medical care and sanitation services and from diversified food production. Clinics provided services to 322 individuals; nearly 720 individuals gained access to clean water; and close to 8,000 people now enjoy a more nutritious diet.
- Grantees collaborated with 541 new partners and maintained relations with more than 1,600 organizations, which enabled them to mobilize additional resources and exchange experiences.
- The IAF's responsive, results-oriented approach continues to attract new sources of support for grassroots development. In 2011, IAF grantees mobilized resources valued at more than \$2.7 million beyond their initial counterpart commitments.

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Inter-American Foundation is the only institution that specifically funds academic research on grassroots development in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2012, the IAF awarded 16 Grassroots Development Fellowships to Ph.D. students who have advanced to candidacy in U.S. universities and are undertaking dissertation research throughout the hemisphere. Fellows were selected on the strength of their academic records, their proposals and their potential contributions to grassroots development. All U.S. citizens except as noted, they are researching the following topics:

- **Carolina Arango-Vargas** (Colombia), Syracuse University, *autonomy, resistance and development among women farmers' organizations in rural Antioquia, Colombia*;
- **Kelly Bauer**, George Washington University, *indigenous mobilization in Chile*;
- **Paula Dias**, Brown University, *oil, environmental education and governance in Brazil*;
- **Maria dos Santos Soares** (Brazil), University of Texas, *theatrical performances by Companhia dos Comuns and the challenge of racial equality in Brazil*;
- **Jael Goldsmith Weil**, Northwestern University, *citizens' strategies for changing economic, political, and welfare regimes in Chile between 1954 and 2010*;
- **Summer Harlow**, University of Texas, *the digital transition of grassroots and activist media in El Salvador*;
- **Brett Hartman**, University of California-Santa Barbara, *gully rehabilitation and the restoration of wet meadows in the Bolivian Andes*;
- **Sandra Ley-Gutiérrez** (Mexico), Duke University, *political participation and voting behavior in the midst of violence in Mexico*;
- **Katherine Maich**, University of California-Berkeley, *post-civil war violence and domestic-worker movements in Peru and Guatemala*;
- **Elizabeth Mason-Deese**, University of North Carolina, *movements of unemployed workers in Buenos Aires*;
- **Brian Palmer Rubin**, University of California-Berkeley, *interest organizations and development policy in Mexico*;
- **Paula Pinheiro** (Brazil), University of Florida, *co-management of natural resources in the Lower Juruá Extractive Reserve, Brazil*;
- **Manuel Prieto Montt** (Chile), University of Arizona, *water reforms and the indigenous people of the Atacama Desert*;
- **Rodrigo Renteria-Valencia** (Mexico), University of Arizona, *environmental conservation and the transformation of indigenous expertise in Mexico*;
- **Czarina Thelen**, University of Texas, *Maya youth theater, social justice and armed violence in Guatemala*;
- **Mary Wilhoit**, Northwestern University, *rural Peruvian women and the privatization of communal farmland*.

The Institute of International Education (IIE) administers the Fellowship Program. In consultation with the IAF, IIE assembles a committee that screens applications. In 2012, it included the following scholars:

- **Dr. John Browder**, Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Polytechnic Institute;
- **Dr. Elizabeth Cartwright**, Professor of Medical Anthropology, Idaho State University;
- **Dr. Marc Chernick**, Professor of Political Science, Georgetown University;
- **Dr. Kevin Healy**, IAF Representative for Bolivia and Adjunct Professor of Sociology, George Washington University;
- **Dr. Maureen Hayes-Mitchell**, Professor of Geography, Colgate University;
- **Dr. Peter Wilshusen**, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, Bucknell University.

A unique feature of the IAF program is the mid-year meeting where Fellows share their work with each other, the IAF and the academic review committee. The 2012 meeting in Panama City included a visit to the Chagres National Park where former IAF grantee Asociación para el Fomento del Turismo (AFOTUR) works with indigenous Embera Panamanians on their tourism enterprise. The meeting held in Guatemala in 2011 prompted nine Fellows to develop two back-to-back panels, titled “Re-Assessing the Role of the Grassroots at the Bicentennial,” for this year’s Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Kevin Healy, IAF representative for Bolivia and an internationally recognized scholar, served as chair; discussants were Elizabeth Cartwright, referenced above, and Jan Knippers Black, Professor of Political Science at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, who has served on the academic review committee.

The IAF’s second juried competition for IAF Fellows resulted in the selection of two manuscripts for publication in *Grassroots Development* 2012. Members of the academic review committee conducted the anonymous peer review.

The Fellowship Program, launched in 1974, has supported doctoral students, post-doctoral researchers and master’s degree candidates from throughout the hemisphere. Between 1991 and 1995, outstanding grassroots leaders pursued independent studies funded by the Dante B. Fascell Inter-American Fellowship. The 1,112 alumni of the program include many highly respected scholars and practitioners who have influenced generations of students as well as institutions and public policy, including development assistance policy. For more information on the program and application procedures, visit www.iie.org/iaf.—P.D.

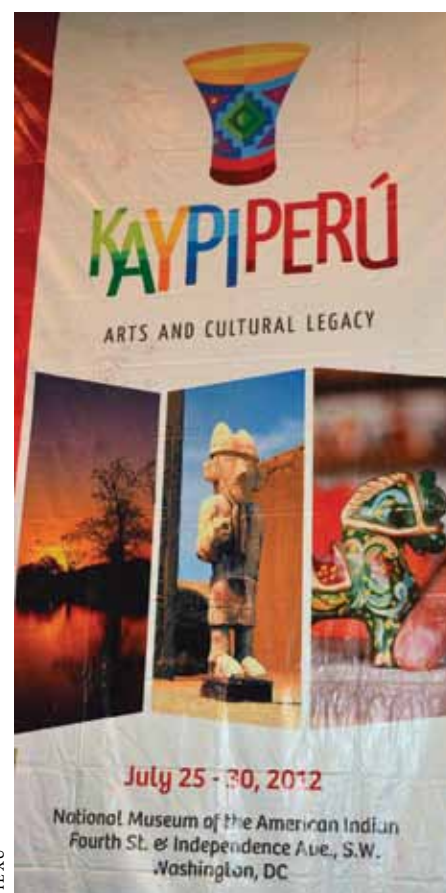


IAF Fellows, Chagres National Park, Panama.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

IAF travel grants fund the participation of academics and representatives of nongovernmental organizations and local government in conferences and workshops that support the development process and democratic practices. During the fiscal year, 226 travel grantees participated in the following events, among others:

- In October, **Global Rights Partners for Justice** trained 12 African descendants from civil society organizations in 10 countries to ensure the inclusion of their constituents' concerns on the agenda of the Organization of American States. African descendants from Nicaragua, Peru and Colombia attended the Third Foro Interamericano Afro Descendiente held by Global Rights in Bogota in March with the goal of facilitating the contribution of citizens of African descent to the Summit of the Americas.
- Representatives of **Fondation SEROvie**, a Haitian grassroots organization with a dual focus on health and the rights of Haitians living with HIV and LGBT Haitians, participated in the Caribbean HIV Conference held in the Bahamas in November. Joining them at the XIX International AIDS Conference held in Washington, D.C., in July were representatives of three other organizations from Haiti and the Dominican Republic, including **Red de Voluntarios de Amigos Siempre Amigos** (REVASA), which works to reduce the risk of infection among gay Dominicans.
- **The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI)** in Washington, D.C., hosted Peruvians from three IAF grantee partners at Kaypi Perú, a Quechua phrase meaning "this is Peru", a celebration of cultural heritage co-sponsored by the Inter-American Foundation and the **Embassy of Peru**. The festival, held July 25–30, showcased crafts, music, dance and food as well as the work of the three grassroots organizations: **Ayllu Yupaychay's** (Yupay) curriculum that relies on the arts and cultural identity to teach indigenous children in rural Andean schools around Cuzco; the agroforestry efforts of **Asociación Minga Perú** (Minga Perú) in the Amazon region; and the services Instituto de Investigación para el **Desarrollo Rural Agro Industrial y Medio Ambiente** (IDRA) offers to tourists visiting the Chullpas of Sillustani, a sacred pre-Incan burial ground near Puno and one of Peru's most impressive archaeological sites. A full program of hands-on workshops introduced children to aspects of Peruvian life and lore. The grantee partners offered handicrafts and wool accessories for sale and exhibited paintings by children in Yupay's schools.





La marinera, below, and the ceramics of master craftsman César Juárez Ramírez, left, were among the traditions on display at Kaypi Perú.

TIE XU



- Former Bolivian grantee **El Ceibo**, a federation of farmer cooperatives, held its quadrennial cacao festival in August in the Alto Beni, the capital of the country's production of organic cacao thanks to El Ceibo's work over three decades. Among those celebrating with the cacao farmers were representatives of the Bolivian government, international fair-trade organizations and RAPUNZEL, El Ceibo's German client, as well as Kevin Healy of the IAF.

Throughout 2012, IAF staff and grantee representatives shared the IAF's grassroots approach to development as well the accomplishments of its grantee partners, in venues that included the following:

- IAF president Robert Kaplan spoke on poverty reduction and community-based development to Dr. Robert Maguire's class at **George Washington University** in October; to the foreign-affairs professionals in the **Ford Latin America Group** in March; and in July to the **Academy of International Business**. Also in July, he discussed the role of microfinance and public-private sector partnerships in Latin America, part of the briefing series *Latin America on the Rise* hosted by **U.S. Representative Sam Farr**. He shared the IAF's experience and approach in keynote addresses at the meeting of the **Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies** (MACLAS) in March and at the **Central America Donors Forum** organized in June by the **Seattle International Foundation** and held at Microsoft Headquarters in Redmond, Wash.
- IAF representative Kevin Healy, a recognized expert on indigenous social movements, spoke as a panelist at the Conference on Indigenous Movements organized by the **United States Department of State** and lectured on his specialty at the **Foreign Service Institute**. During the fall semester, he taught courses on Indigenous Social Movements in Latin America at **Georgetown University** and **George Washington University**.
- On behalf of the IAF, Amy Kirschenbaum, representative for Brazil, continued to attend regular meetings of the Interagency Steering Committee of the **U.S.-Brazil Joint Action Plan** (JAPER), a cooperative initiative led by the Department of State and the government of Brazil in furtherance of racial and ethnic equality. In January, she lectured for the third time at the **Foreign Service Institute's Advanced Brazil Seminar**.
- IAF representative Seth Jesse discussed the IAF's work in transnational development at the **IX International Convention of Salvadoreños en el Mundo** in Santa Tecla, El Salvador, in December. Travel grants funded the participation of Salvadoran leaders of U.S.-based hometown associations.
- Representatives of grantee **Cooperativa de Provisión de Servicios para Productores, Comercialización y Consumo Centro de Comercio Solidario, Ltda.** (CCD) of Argentina (AR-354) attended the **Organic Honey Conference** in San Cristobal de las Casas, Mexico, in March. They participated in training, exchanged experiences and met with CCD's client, the largest importer of fair-trade honey destined for Europe.
- The IAF participated in March in a multinational exchange at the **Kettering Foundation** and in July in **Deliberative Democracy Exchange** with a dozen thought leaders from the IAF, Kettering, Northwestern University and the Coady International Institute.
- For two weeks in April, Marion Ritchey-Vance, who retired in 1995, drew from her career at the IAF and

RIO +20

from journal articles to lecture on grassroots development and the IAF's approach at **Carleton College** as Headley Distinguished Visitor. Carleton also hosted a complementary exhibit of IAF photos.

- The IAF sponsored 54 representatives from 32 organizations in 12 countries at the **Ecovida Network** conference on the organic certification and marketing of agricultural products. Held in May in Florianópolis, Brazil, the event culminated in the formation of a Latin America network to facilitate the exchange of information toward more effective practices.
- Also in May, the IAF coordinated with 35 Salvadoran leaders from metropolitan Washington, D.C., to encourage diaspora groups to marshal funds and human resources for community-based enterprises and grassroots groups in El Salvador.
- Nine grantee partners were represented among the organizations that gathered in Rio de Janeiro in June for the **Cúpola do Povo**, or **People's Summit**, commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the 1992 Earth Summit with a host of events running parallel to **Rio+20, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**: Centro de Estudos e Promoção da Agricultura de Grupo (CEPAGRO), Centro de Apoio Socio-Ambiental (CASA) and Fundação Grupo Boticário (FBPN) from Brazil; Fundación para el Etnodesarrollo de los Llanos Orientales de Colombia (ETNOLLANO); Institución Ecueménica de Promoción Social (OGUASU) of Paraguay; and Corporación Educativa para el Desarrollo Costarricense (CEDECO) whose executive director spoke on community-based strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change at the **Forum on Social Entrepreneurship in the New Economy**. The Industrial Federation of the State of Rio de Janeiro (FIRJAN) collaborated in building the structure housing the forum which was co-sponsored by the IAF and organized by the Avina Foundation, Ashoka, Fundação Roberto Marinho and the Skoll Foundation. Amy Kirschenbaum, represented the IAF.
- IAF representative Marcy Kelley participated in the Community Philanthropy Program sponsored by the **Aga Khan Foundation** and the **C.S. Mott Foundation** in July. Representatives of foundations and aid agencies from around the world explored how to strengthen the global infrastructure of community philanthropy, develop regional networks, support innovative projects and build the knowledge base.
- Amy Kirschenbaum, Gabriela Boyer and Jenny Petrow of the IAF joined representatives from three partner organizations in Mexico, Brazil and the Dominican Republic to lead *Philanthropy Action: Perspectives from the South*, a roundtable discussion at the annual conference of **Grant-makers without Borders** in California in September. The discussion explored the role of foundations in developing countries in the transition from charity to support for grassroots development.

COURTESY AVINA FOUNDATION



Representatives of IAF grantees at Rio+20 heard conservationist Marina Silva, a Brazilian presidential candidate in 2011 and former minister of the environment.

STRATEGIC PLAN

THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

FISCAL 2013–2017

Mission:

Promoting and investing in grassroots development to help communities thrive.

Vision:

Thriving communities throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, where people direct their own lives as individuals and citizens.

Strategic Goal One:

Support the coordinated efforts of the poor to improve their material circumstances, strengthen their organizations, and enhance the social and economic environment for citizen-led community development.

Strategic Goal Two:

Promote the social inclusion and civic participation of traditionally marginalized groups.

Strategic Goal Three:

Make knowledge-generation and knowledge-management an integral part of our work, informing new approaches for smarter investments by IAF and others.

Strategic Goal Four:

Increase awareness and understanding of, and support for, the IAF and its programs among key audiences in order to draw more resources into grassroots development.

Strategic Goal Five:

Modernize and strengthen operations.

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

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